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ADVENTURE  
SERIES

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# NUCKLES

## THE ECHIDNA

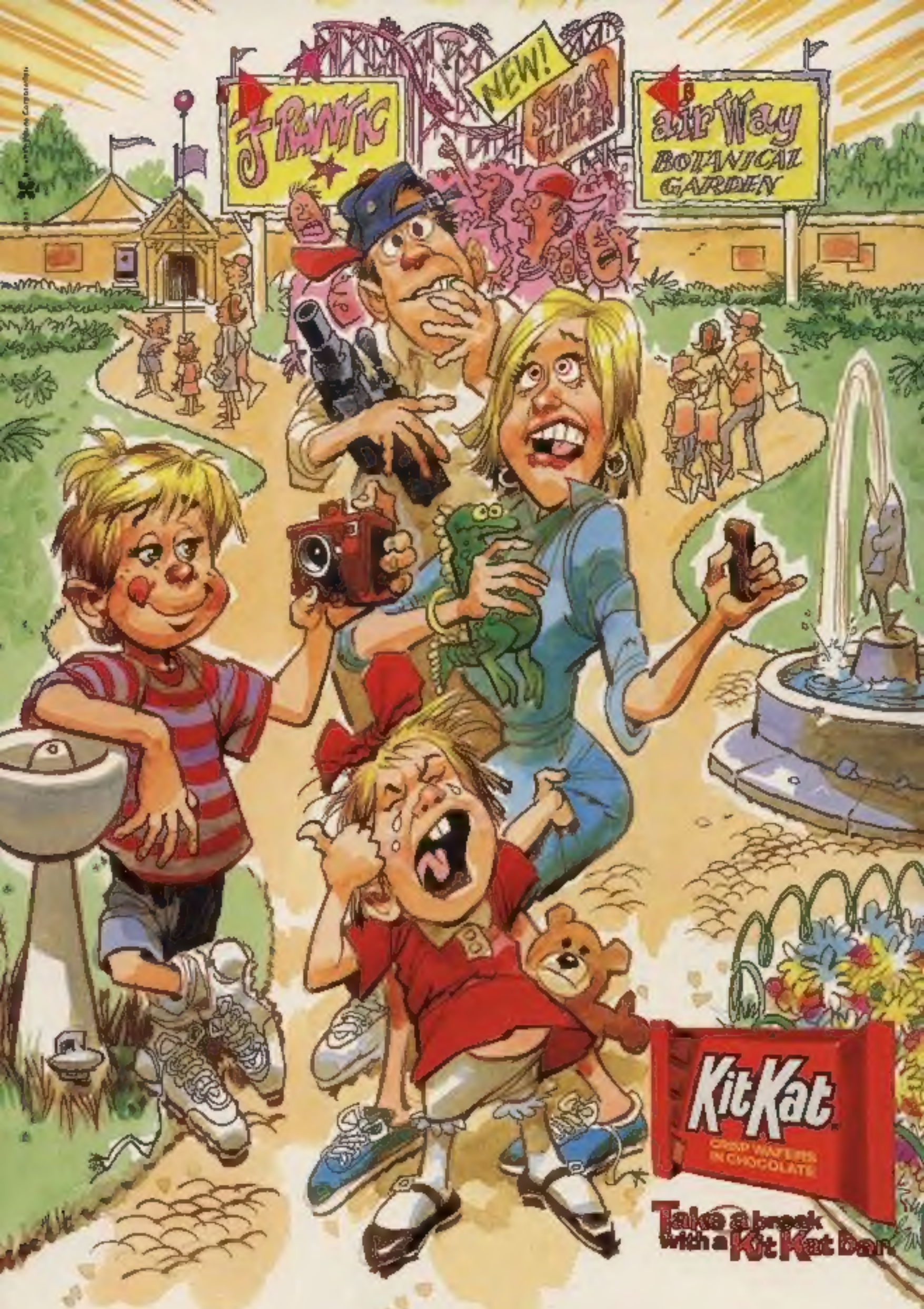
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A

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B



# GNUCKLES

BOOK EIGHT

## DARK VENGEANCE

Part Two of Three

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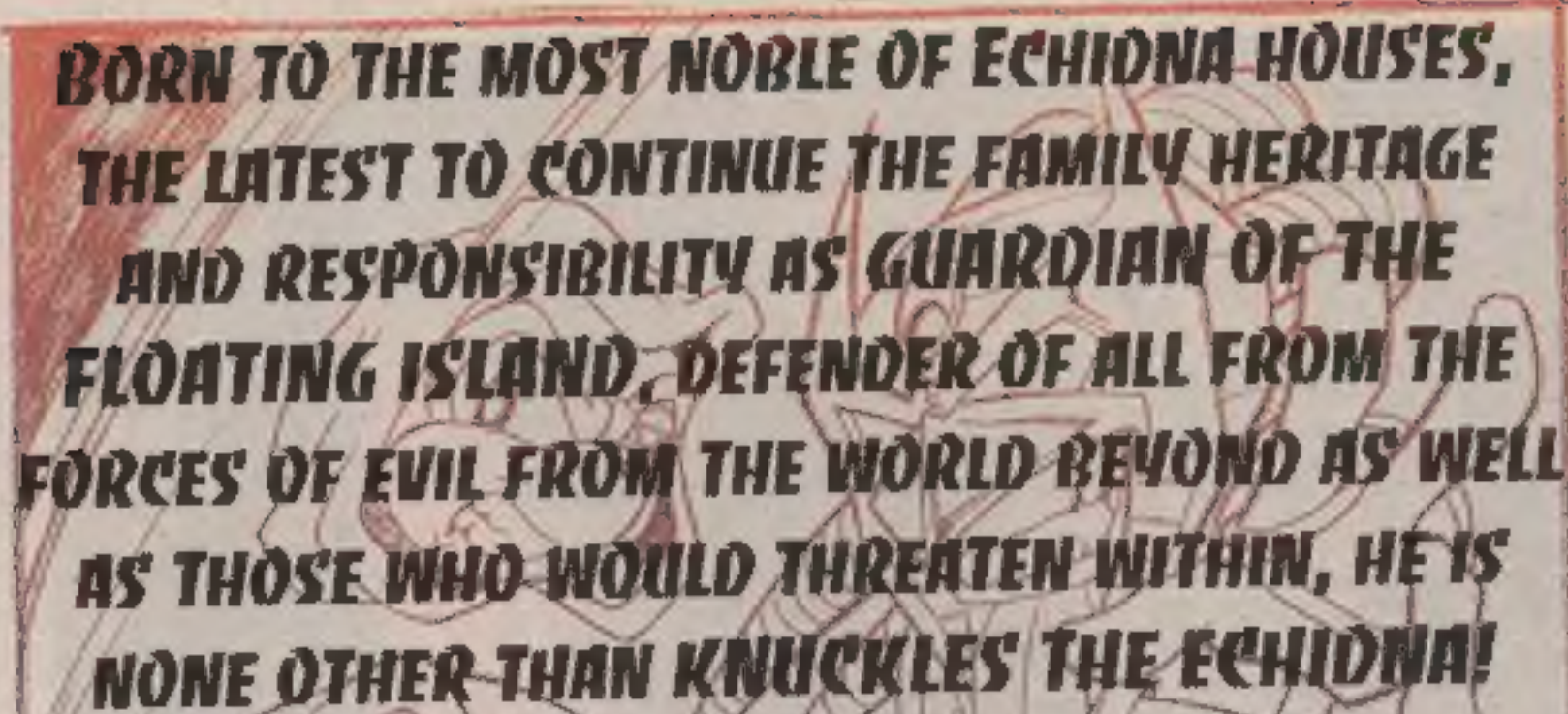
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A faint, sketchy background illustration in blue and red ink. It depicts Knuckles the Echidna on the left, looking towards the right, and Julie-Su on the right, looking towards the left. They appear to be in a dynamic pose, possibly during a conversation or action sequence. The lines are loose and expressive, typical of comic book art.

**BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES,  
THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE  
AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE  
FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL FROM THE  
FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL  
AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN WITHIN, HE IS  
NONE OTHER THAN KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!**

**LAST ISSUE, KNUCKLES AND JULIE-SU ENGAGED IN  
A THOUGHTFUL DISCUSSION INVOLVING PLENTY OF  
QUESTIONS BUT FEW ANSWERS. DECIDING THERE  
WAS ONLY ONE PARTY THEY COULD TURN TO, THEY  
SOUGHT OUT ARCHIMEDES, THE ENIGMATIC  
FIRE-ANT WHO SERVES AS BOTH FRIEND AND  
MENTOR. DURING THEIR QUEST, THEY DISCOVERED  
EVIDENCE THAT SOMETHING BAD HAD HAPPENED TO  
THE CHOATIX. EVIDENCE WHICH POINTED TO NOT  
JUST ONE ENEMY, BUT TWO.**

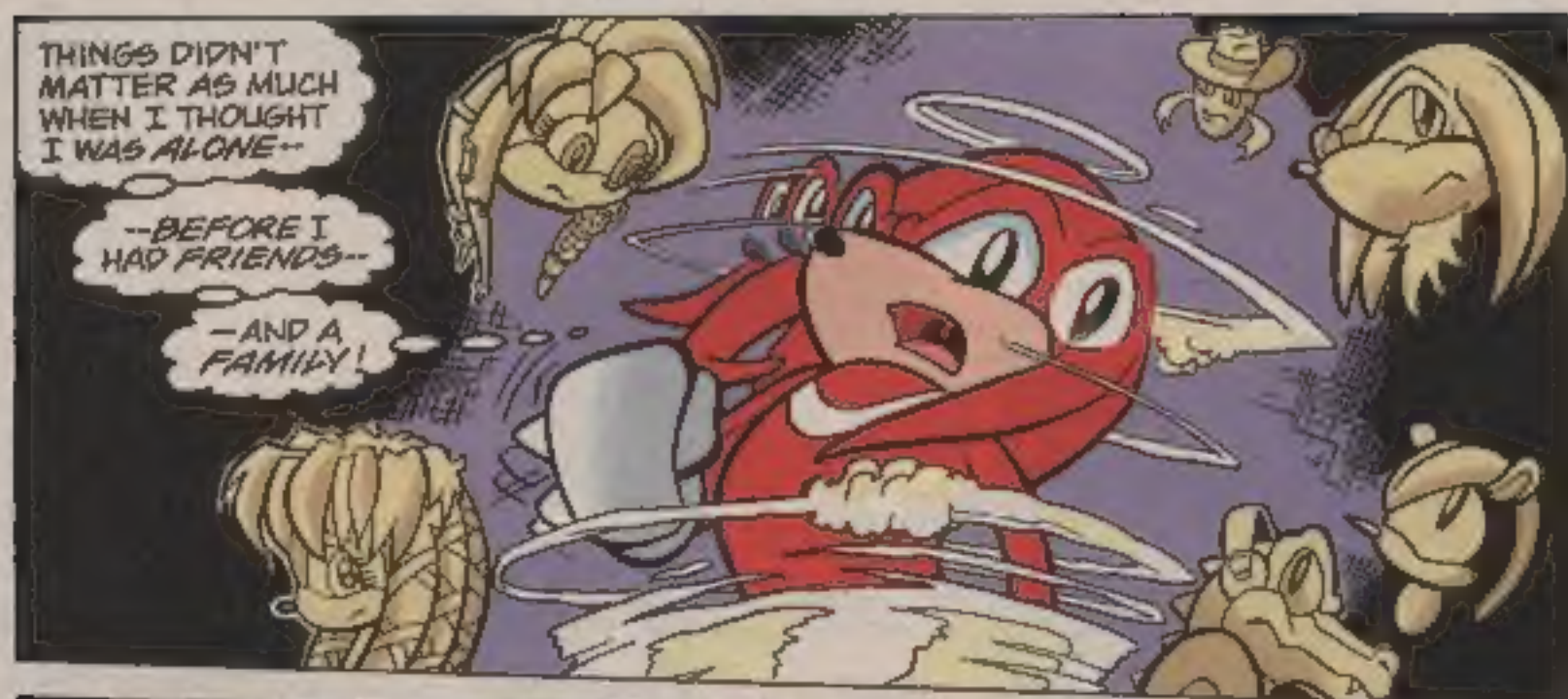
**MAKING THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ISLAND,  
KNUCKLES AND JULIE-SU WERE CONFRONTED ONCE  
AGAIN BY A BEING MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY  
OTHER THEY HAD EVER ENCOUNTERED.**



THINGS DIDN'T  
MATTER AS MUCH  
WHEN I THOUGHT  
I WAS ALONE--

--BEFORE I  
HAD FRIENDS--

--AND A  
FAMILY!



BUT WITH  
THE GOOD--

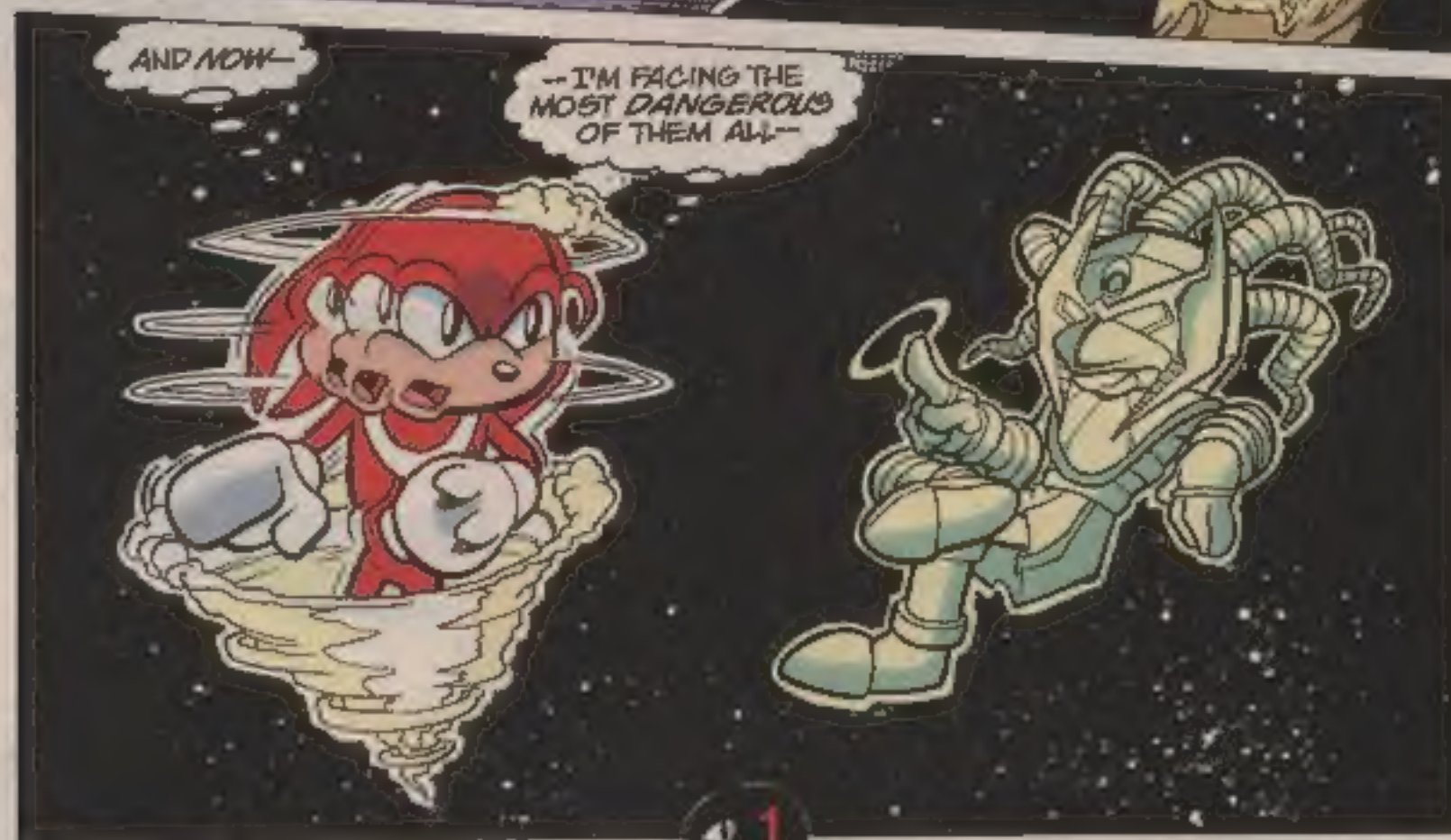
--CAME  
THE BAD--

--ENEMIES AND  
THREATS WAY BEYOND  
ANYTHING I WAS TAUGHT  
TO EXPECT!



AND NOW--

--I'M FACING THE  
MOST DANGEROUS  
OF THEM ALL--





--ENERJAK, AN ALL-  
POWERFUL BEING FUELED  
BY THE ENERGY OF ELEVEN  
CHAOS EMERALDS--

--WHO, FOUR  
HUNDRED YEARS AGO,  
WAS ONCE AN ECHIDNA  
SCIENTIST NAMED  
DIMITRI!

FUNNY HOW ONE'S  
BLOOD RELATIVES  
MAKE THE WORST  
ENEMIES!

MY, MY,  
MY! EVER THE PROUD  
ECHIDNA, ARE WE?





# KNUCKLES <sup>IN</sup> THE GAUNTLET

NOT FOR LONG,  
I CAN ASSURE YOU,  
KNUCKLES!

I'M GOING  
TO BREAK YOU  
TOTALLY—COMPLETELY—  
**MERCILESSLY!**

YOU'RE GOING  
TO PAY FOR WHAT  
YOU DID!



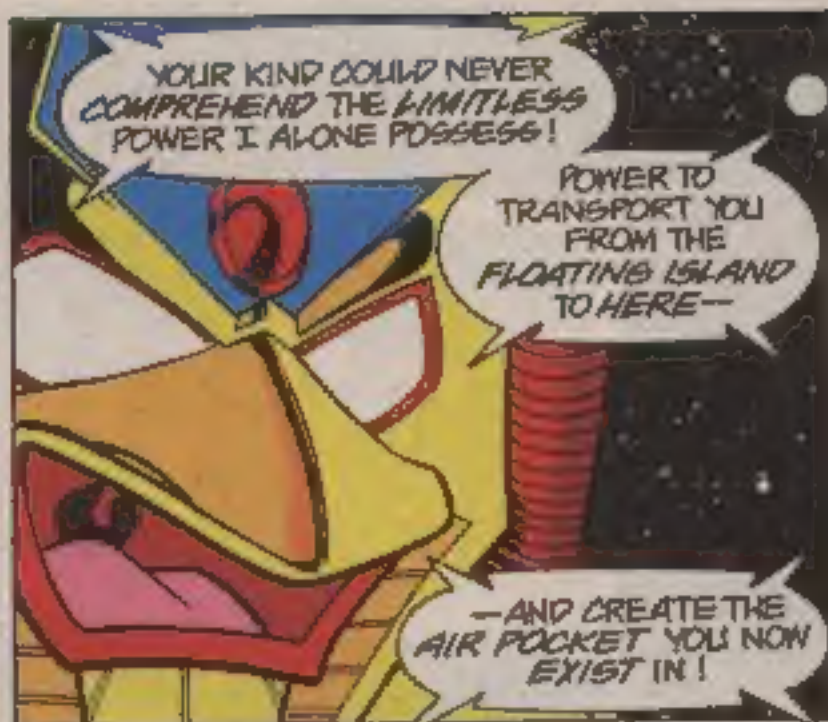


WHAT I DID?!

HAVEN'T  
YOU GOT THAT  
BACKWARDS?

YOU  
FOOL!

YOU'RE ONLY THE  
LATEST CONTINUATION  
OF MISGUIDED BELIEFS  
THAT WERE FORMED LONG  
BEFORE YOU WERE BORN!



YOUR KIND COULD NEVER  
COMPREHEND THE LIMITLESS  
POWER I ALONE POSSESS!

POWER TO  
TRANSPORT YOU  
FROM THE  
FLOATING ISLAND  
TO HERE—

—AND CREATE THE  
AIR POCKET YOU NOW  
EXIST IN!



FUNNY—

--I WAS THINKING  
THAT WITH ALL YOUR  
SO-CALLED POWER  
WHAT A GLASS JAW  
YOU HAVE!\*

\*KNUX AND ENERJAX DUKED  
IT OUT IN THE THIRD ISSUE  
FROM KNICKLES' FIRST MINI-  
SERIES—HISTORIAN JUSTIN.

NOT TO MENTION IT  
WAS YOU GOING BYE-BYE  
AT THE END THERE!\*

\*SAME ISSUE, AND  
HE SURE DID!  
—JUSTIN AGAIN.



YOU THINK YOU  
SUCCEEDED DUE TO YOUR OWN  
CLEVERNESS?!

A DOLT SUCH AS YOU  
COULD NEVER HOPE TO OVER-  
COME ONE SUCH AS I!

ALLOW ME TO  
DEMONSTRATE!



FAA  
W  
B  
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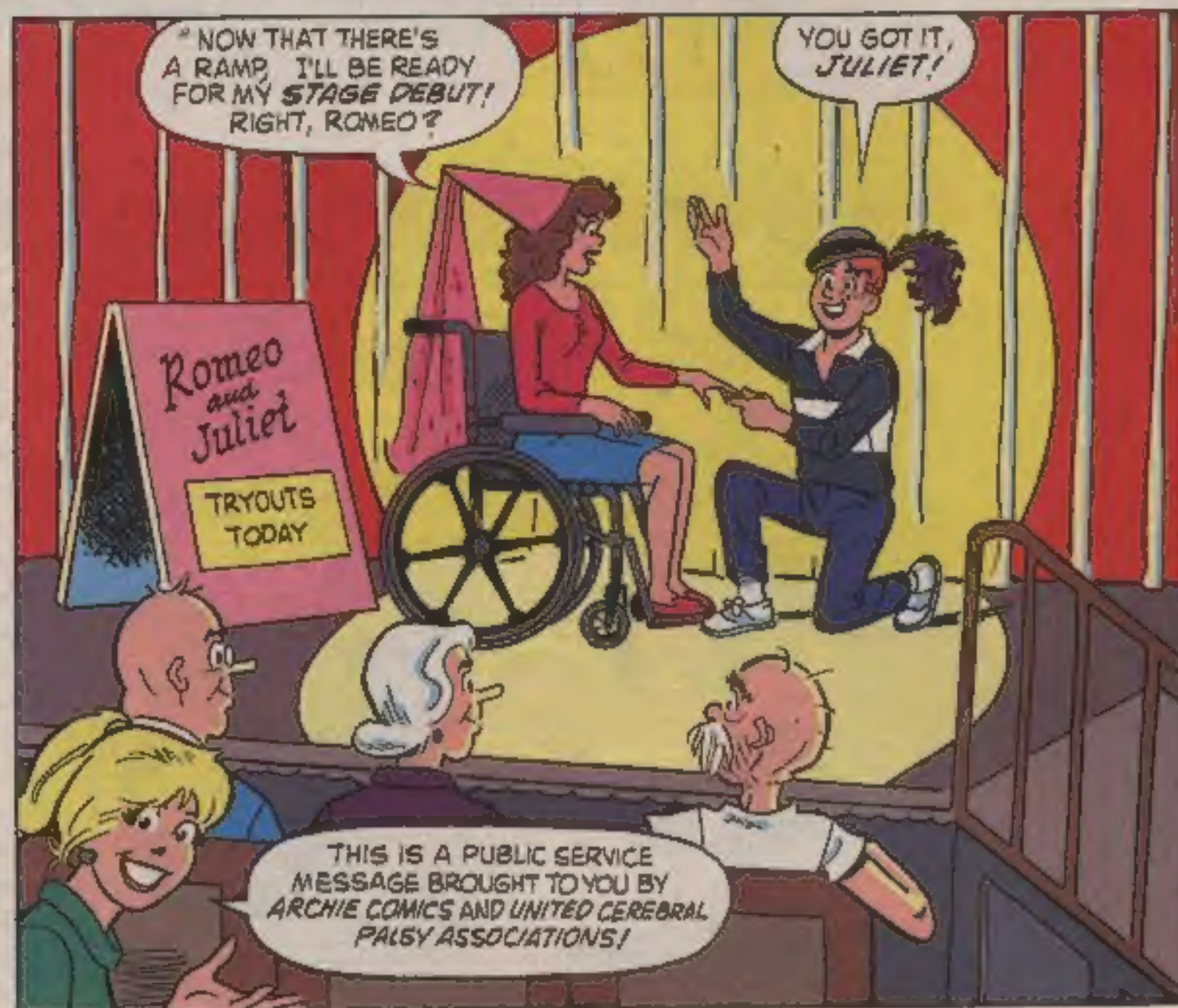
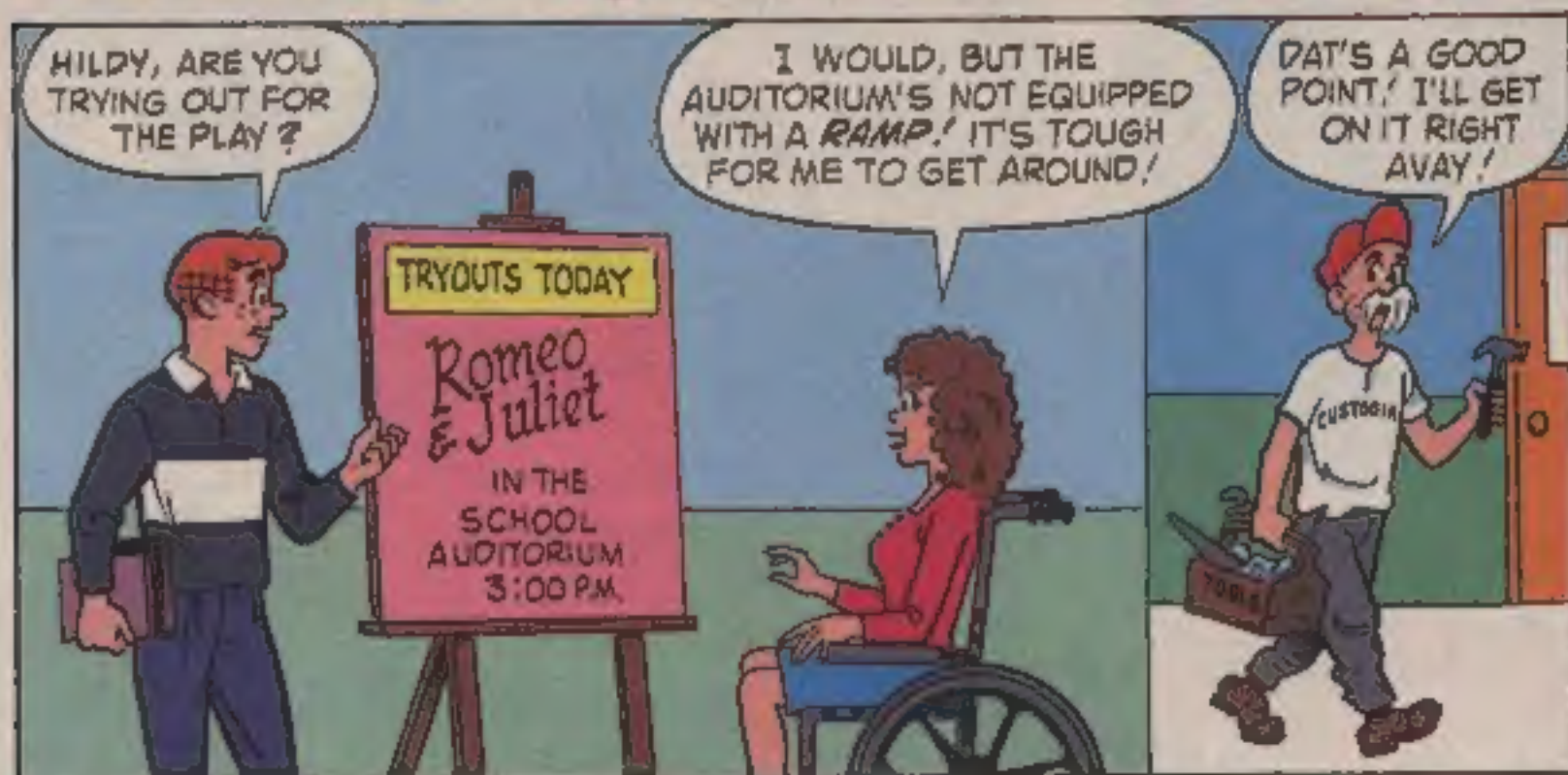
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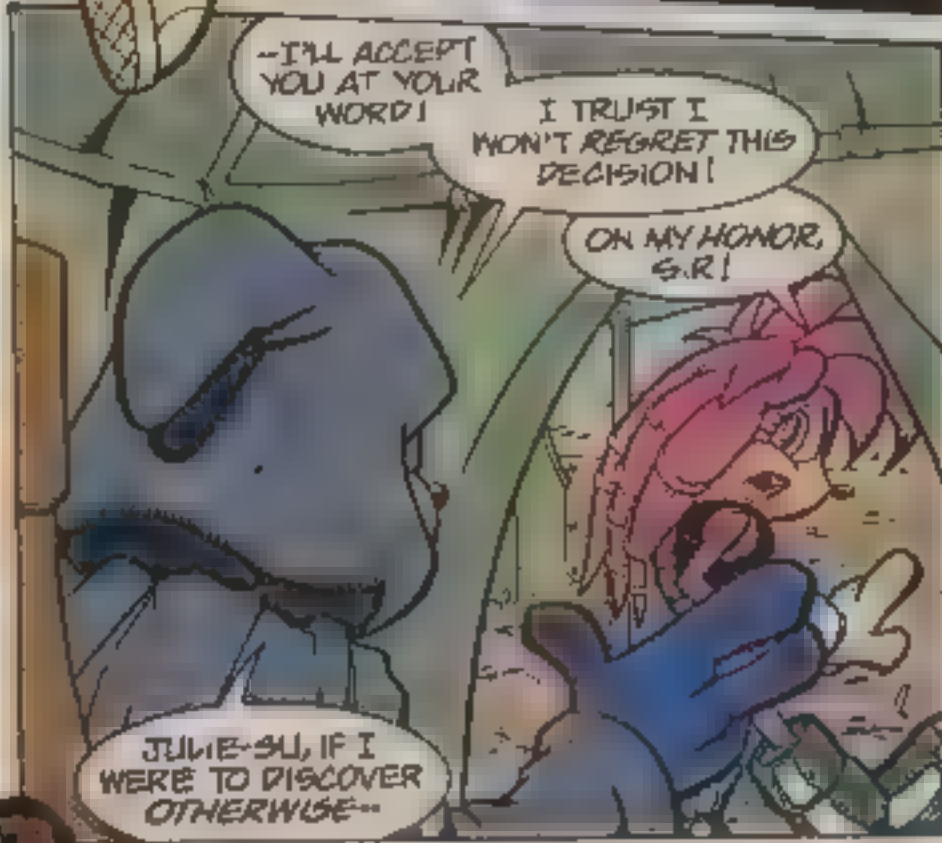
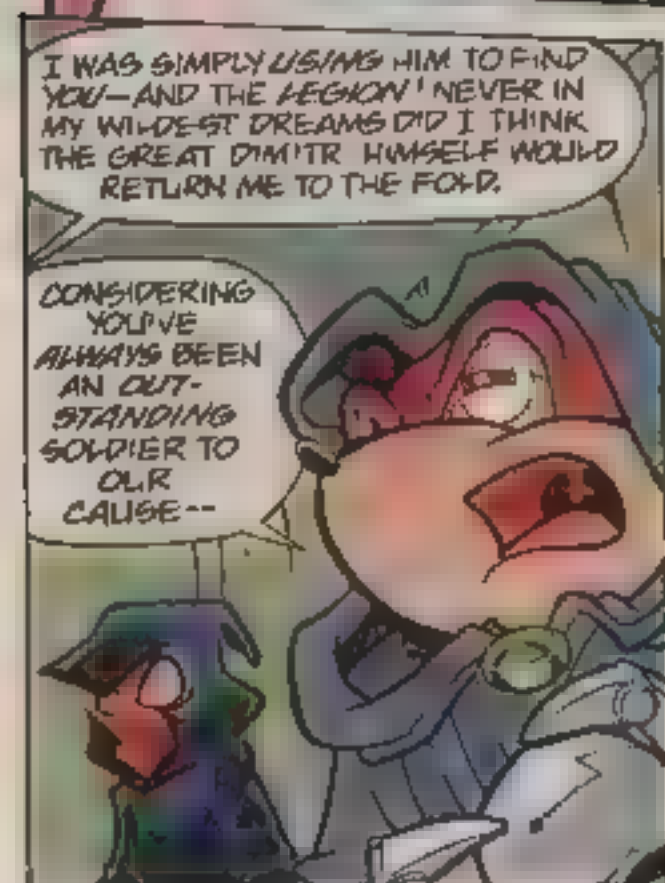
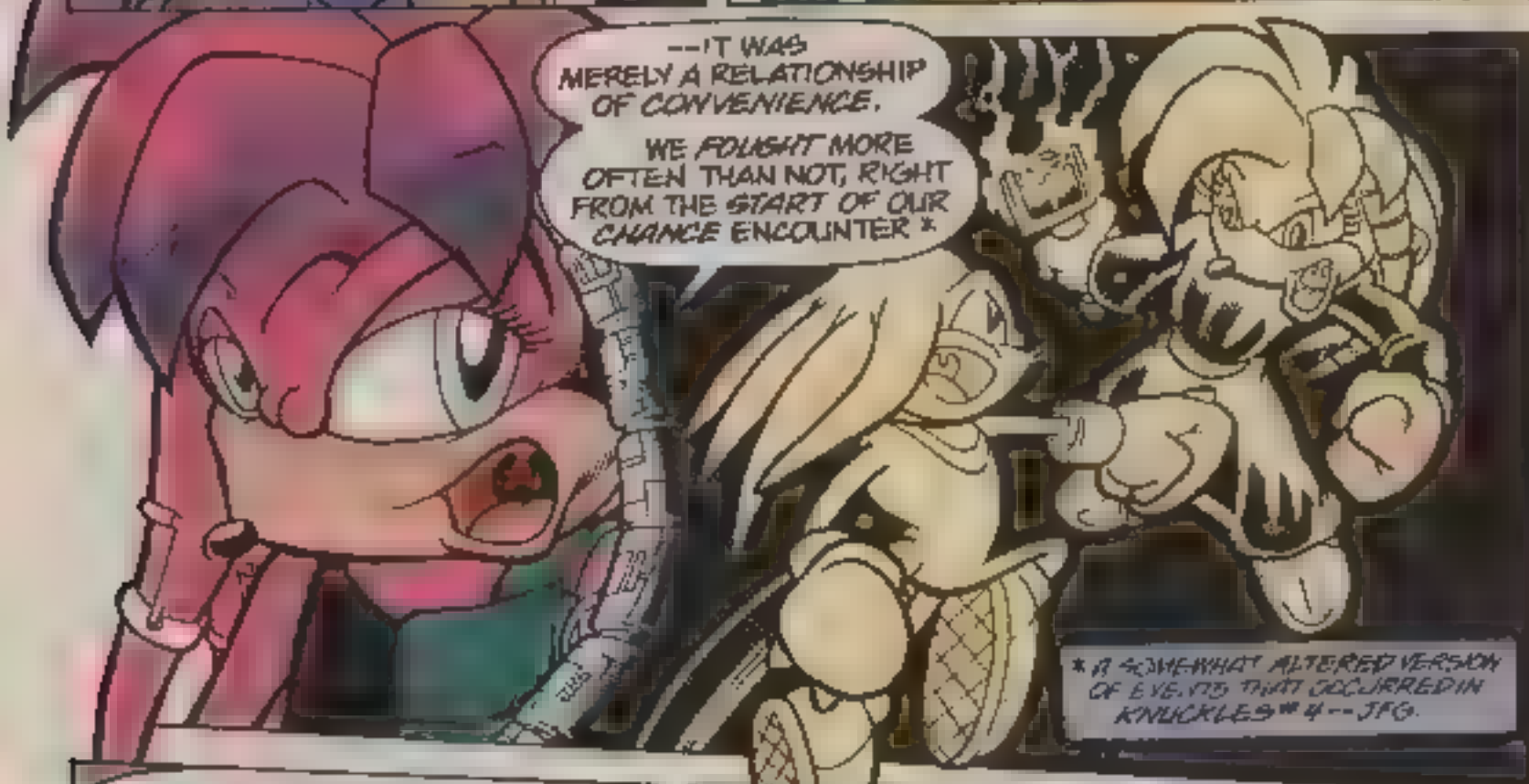
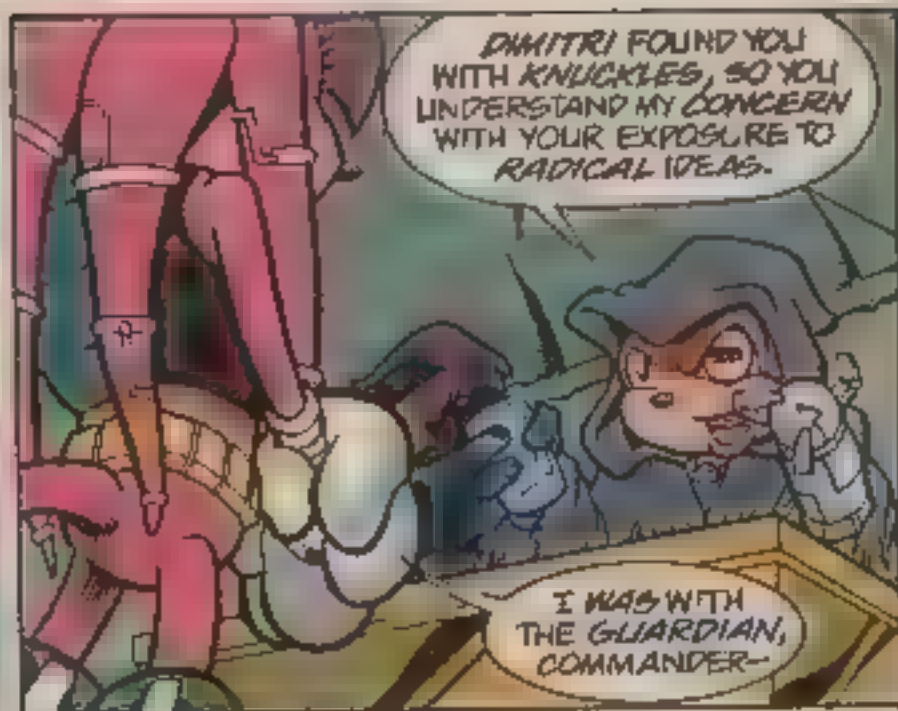
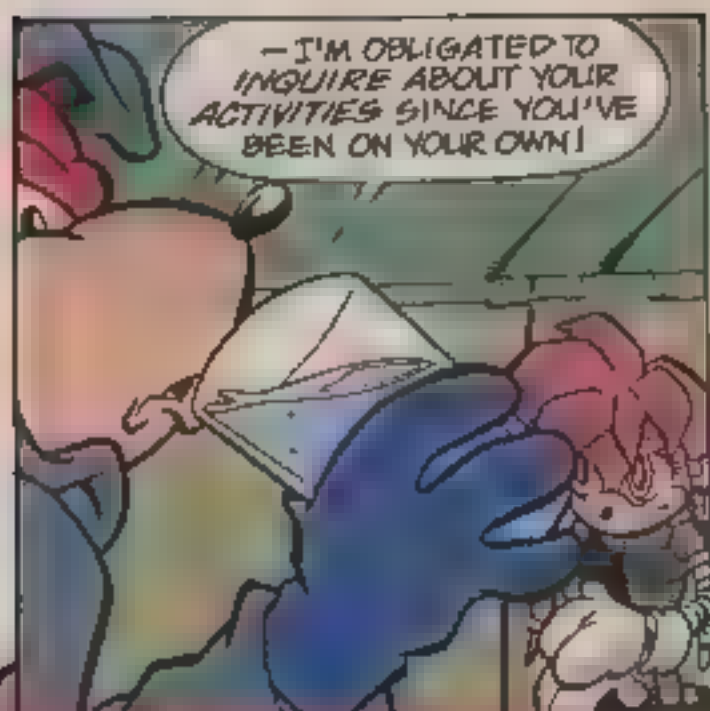
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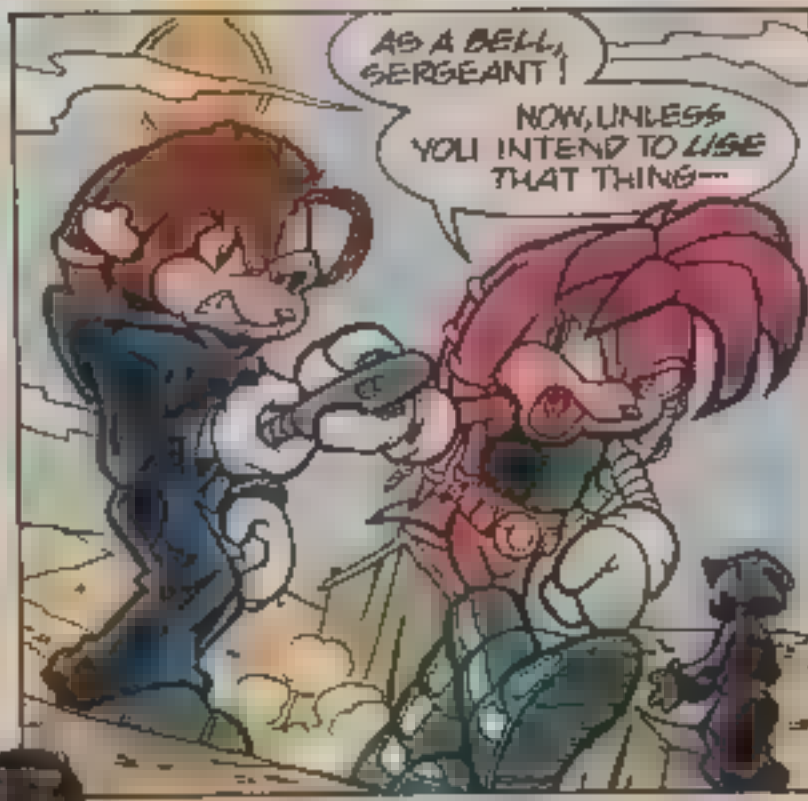
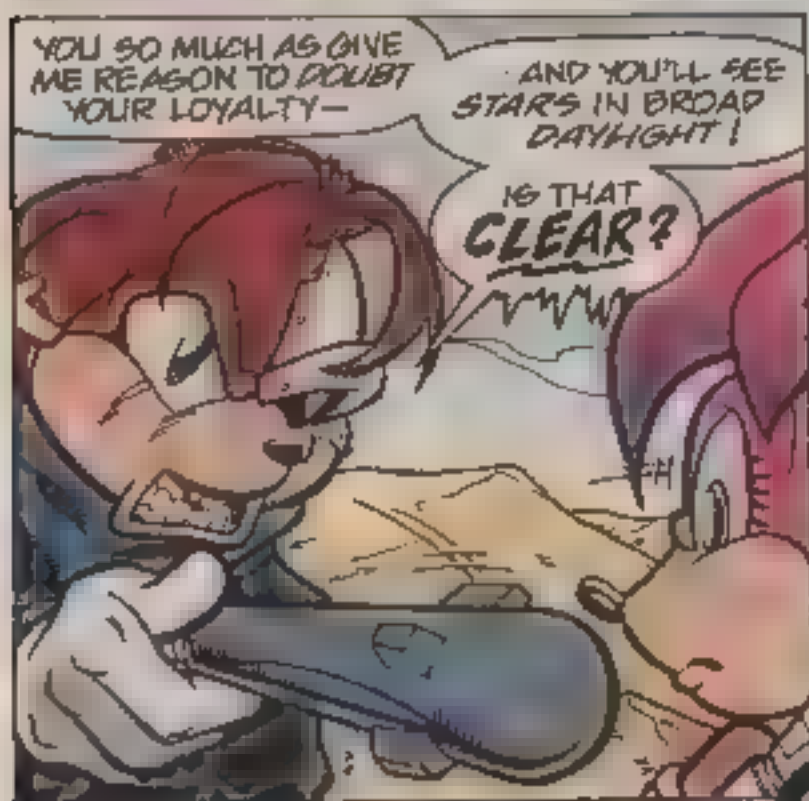
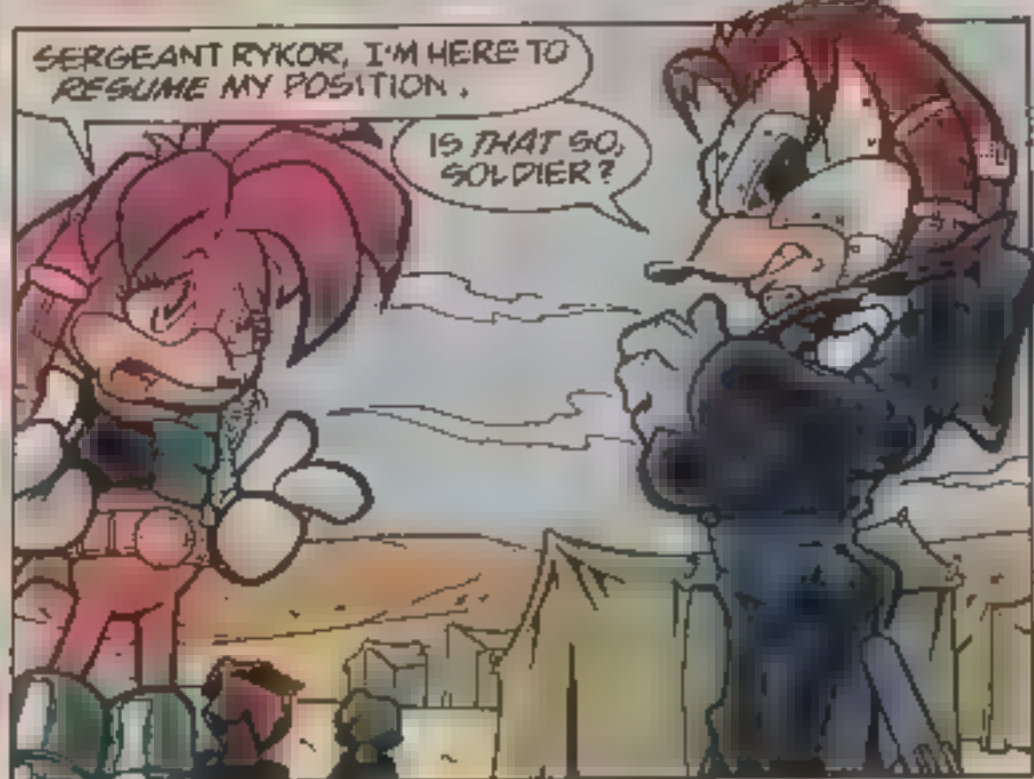
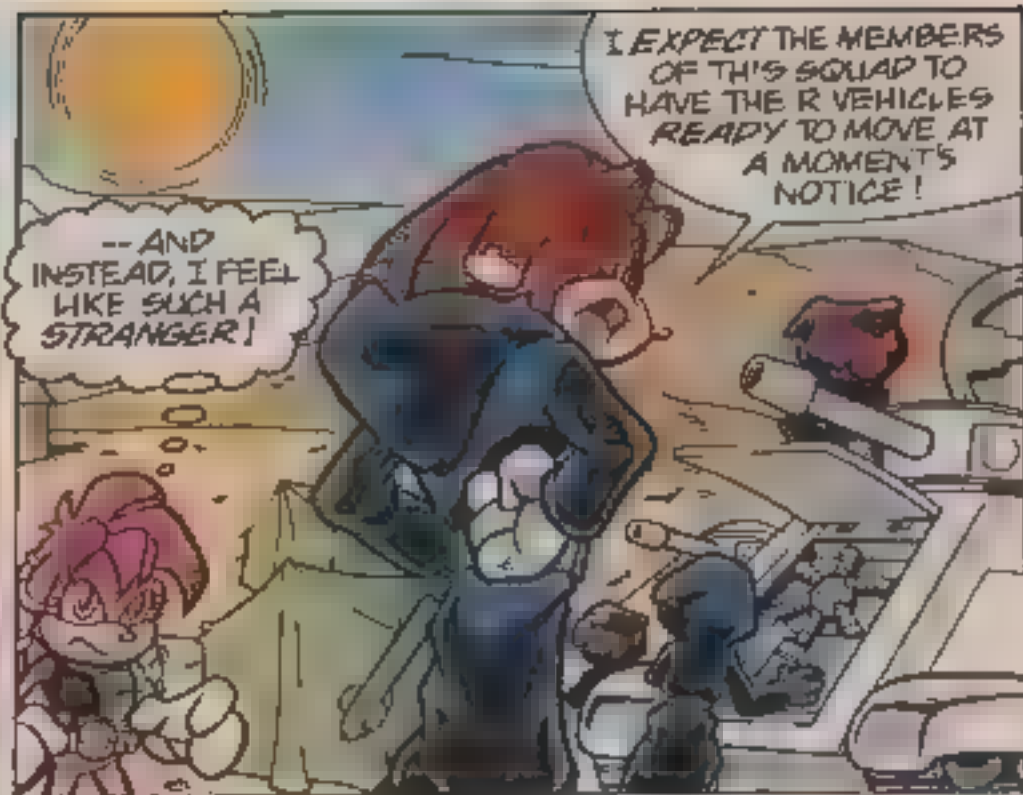
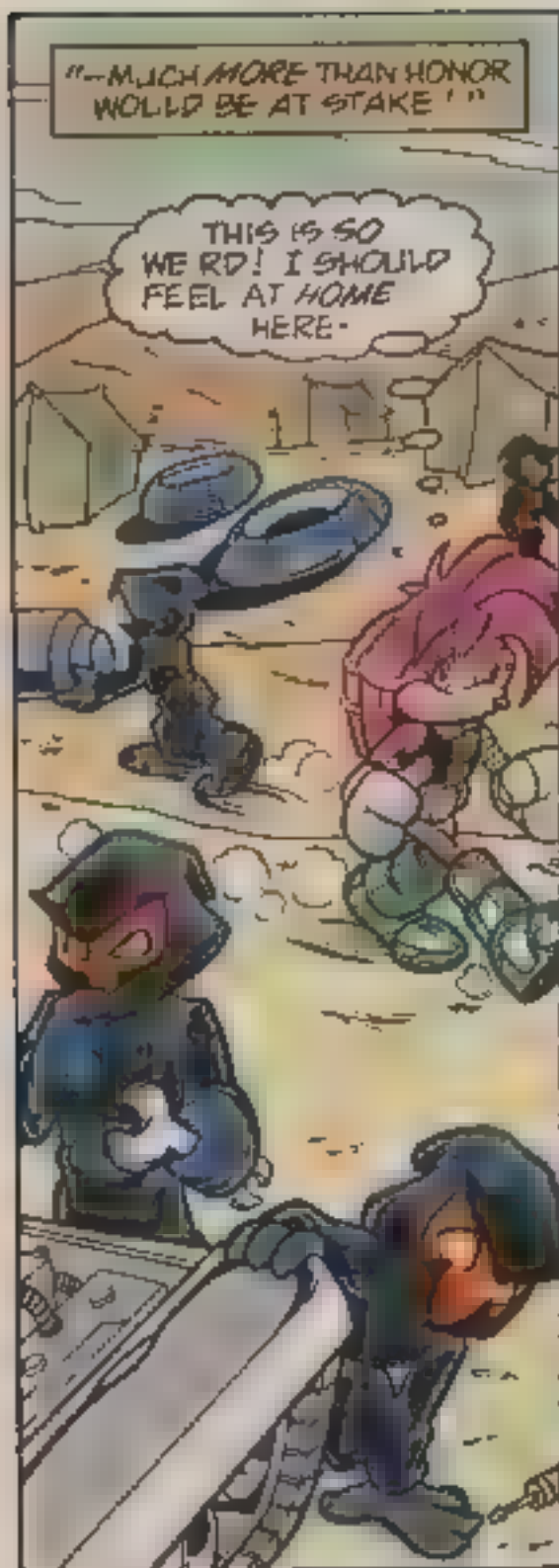




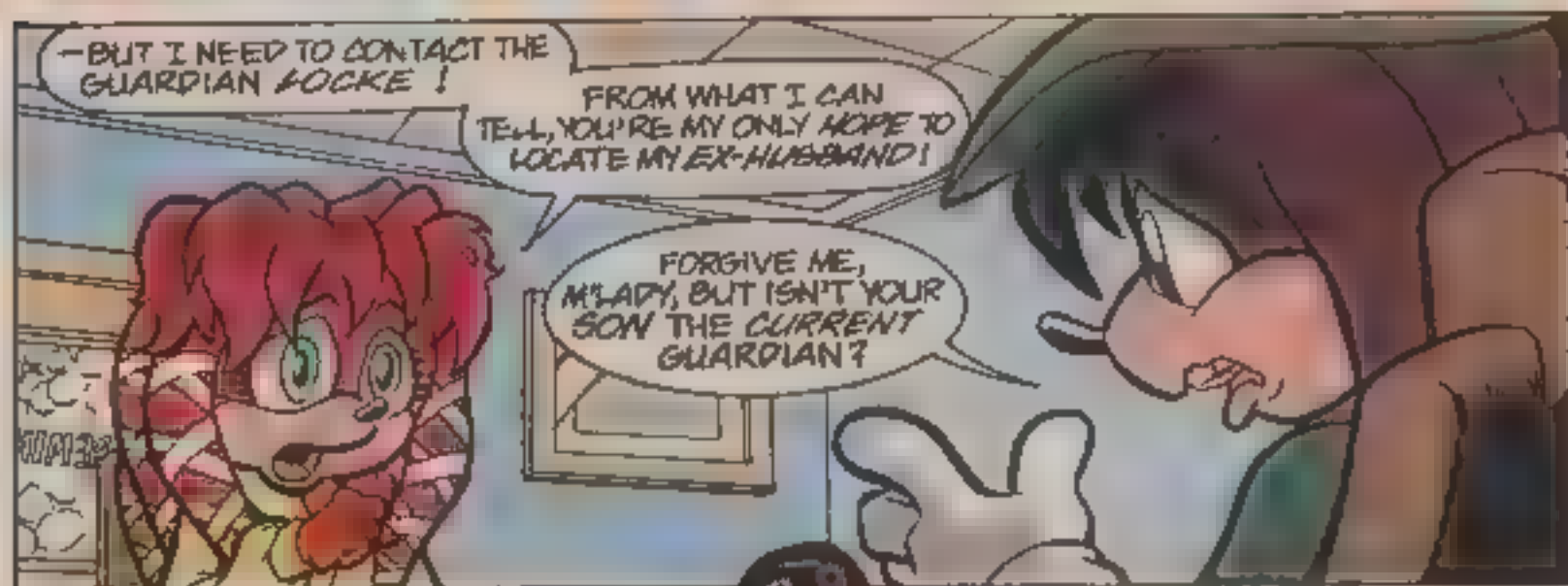
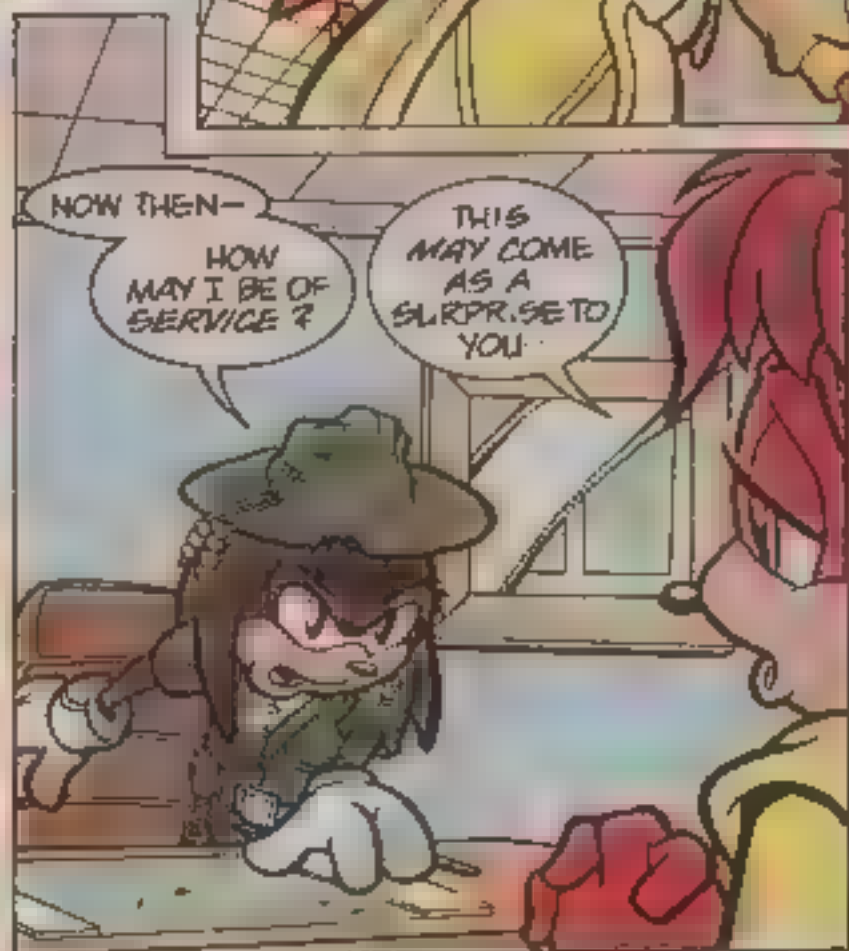
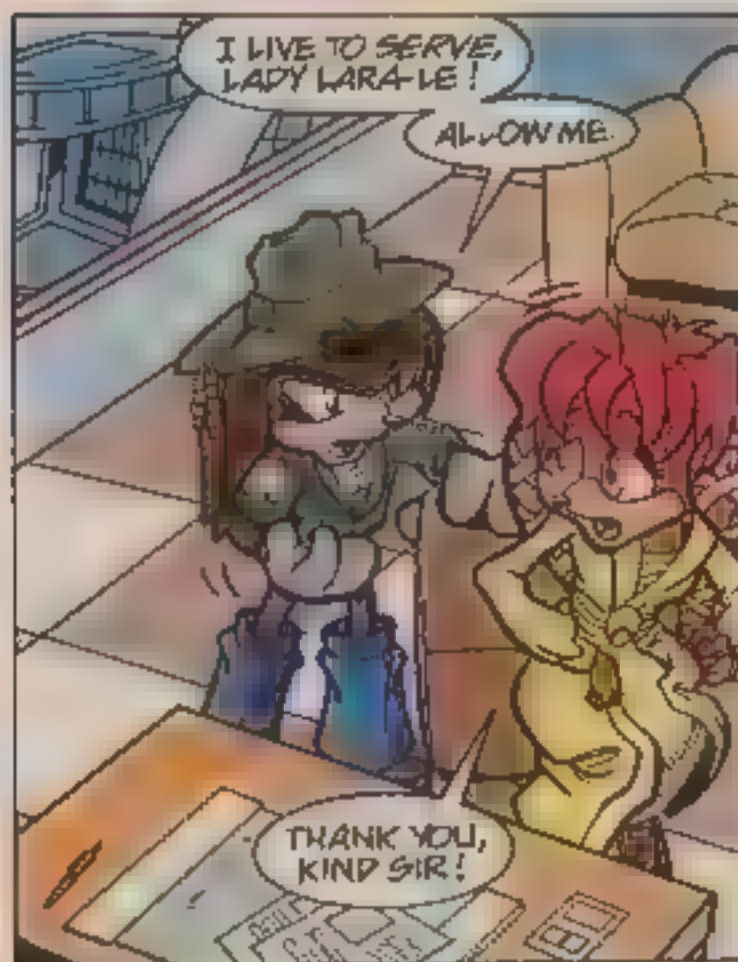
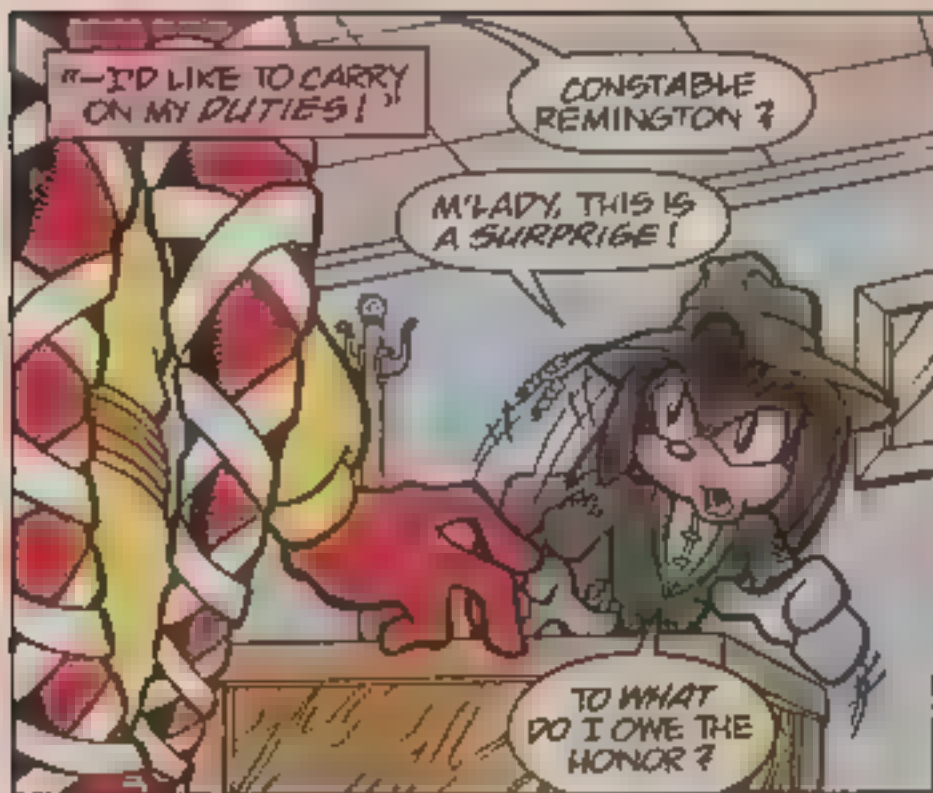


















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KRIS VAN  
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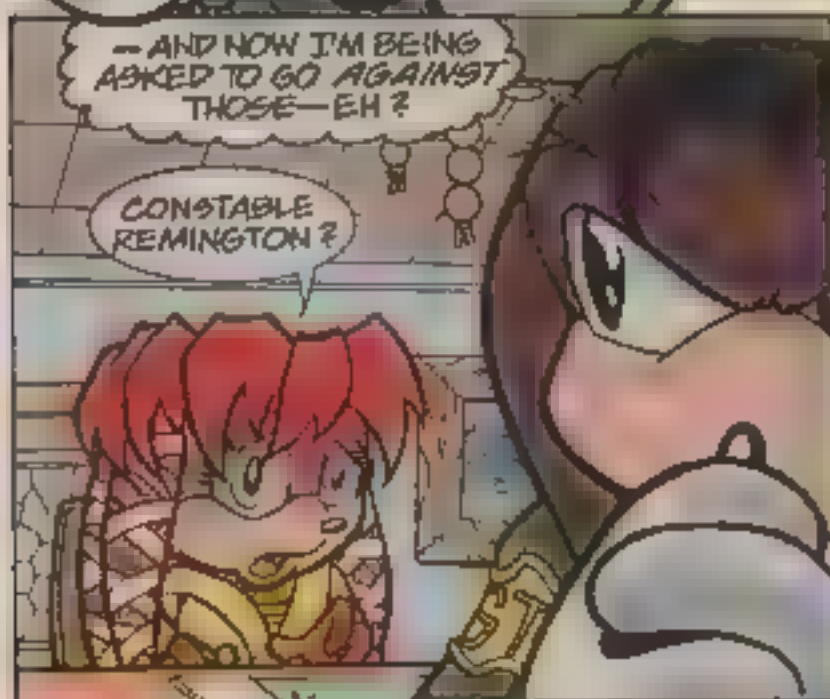
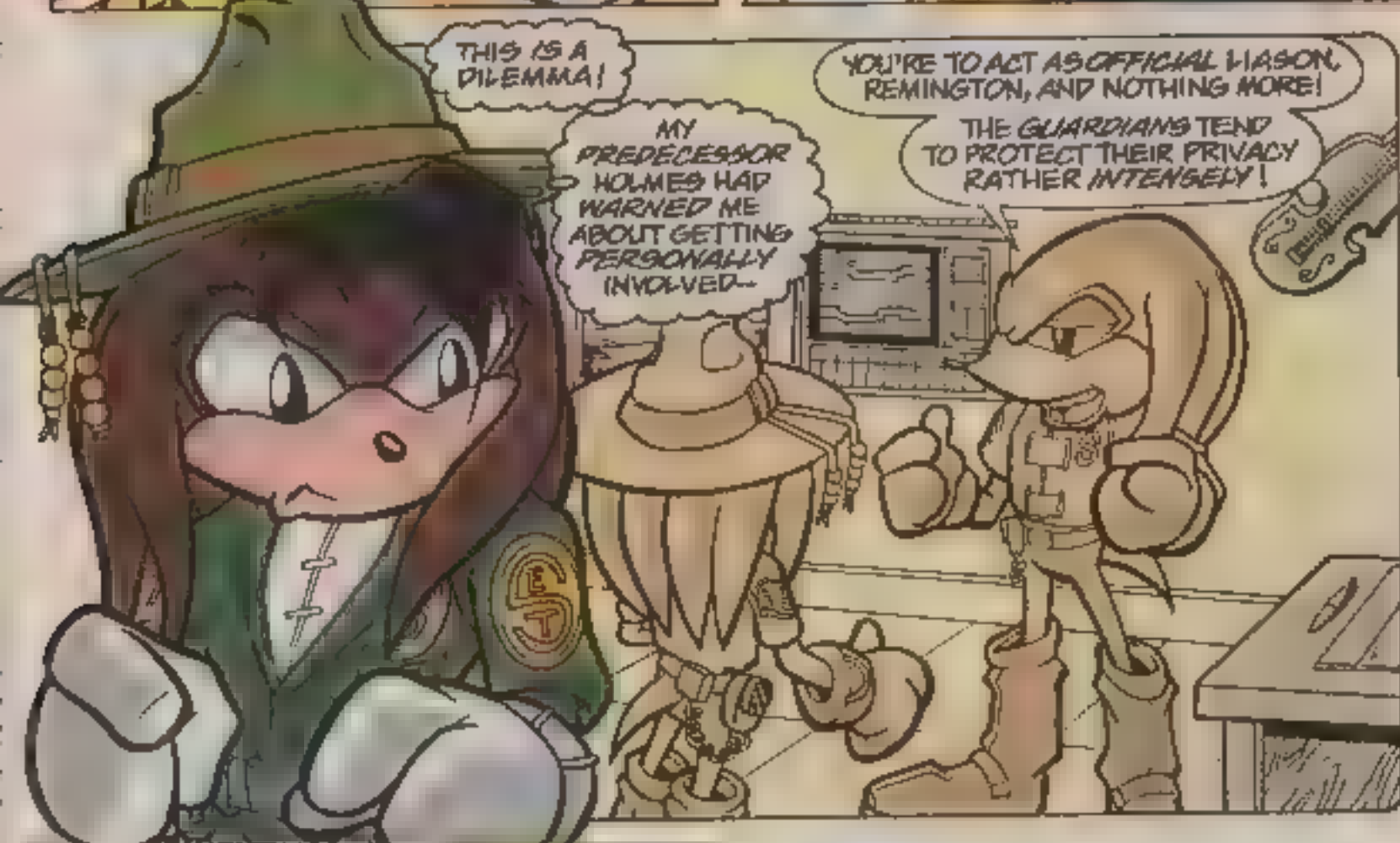
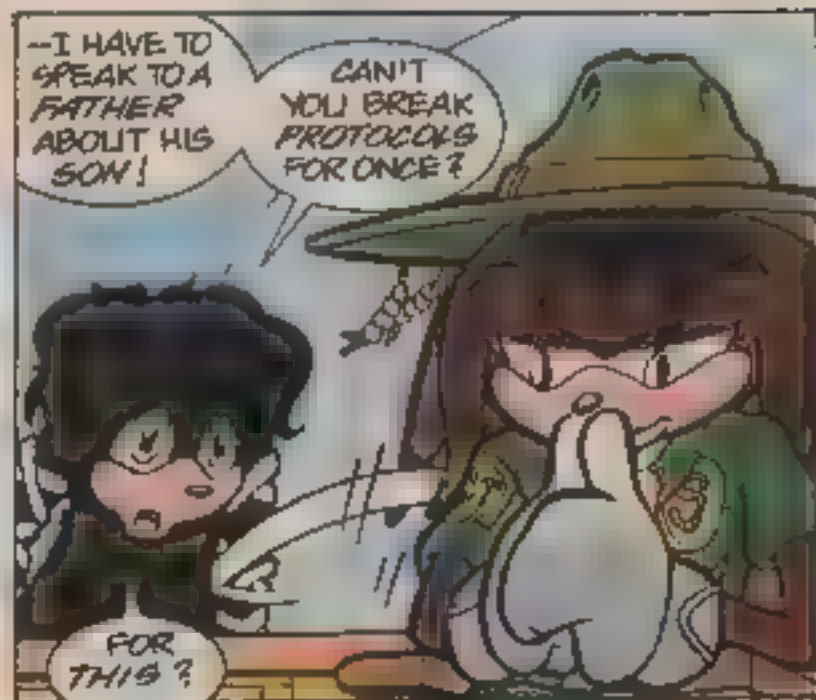
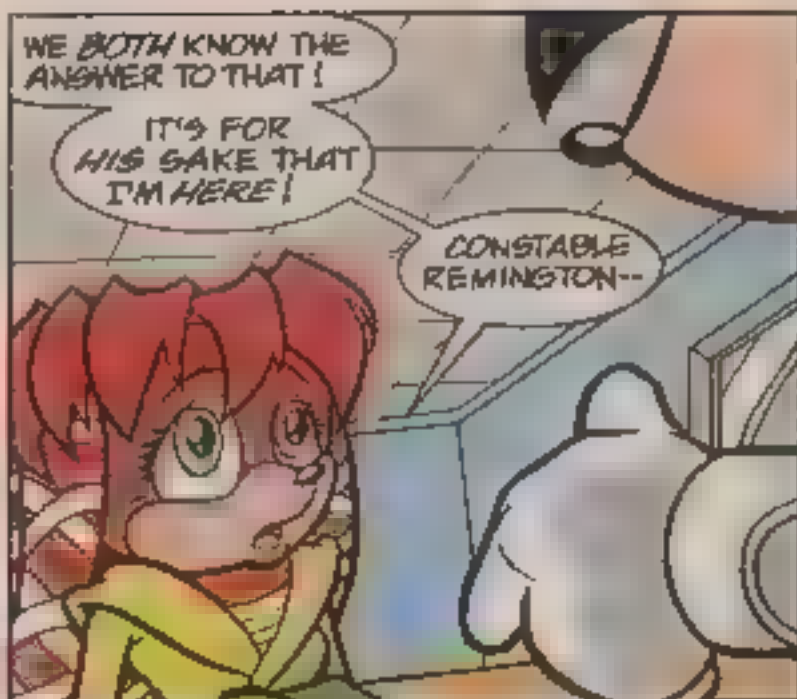
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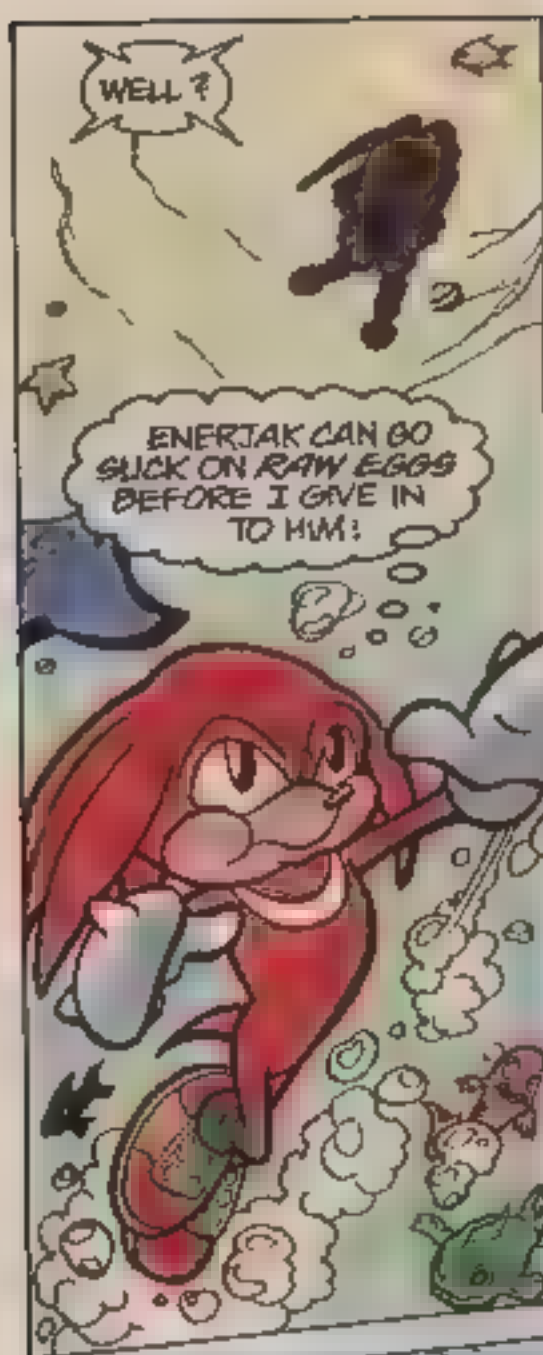
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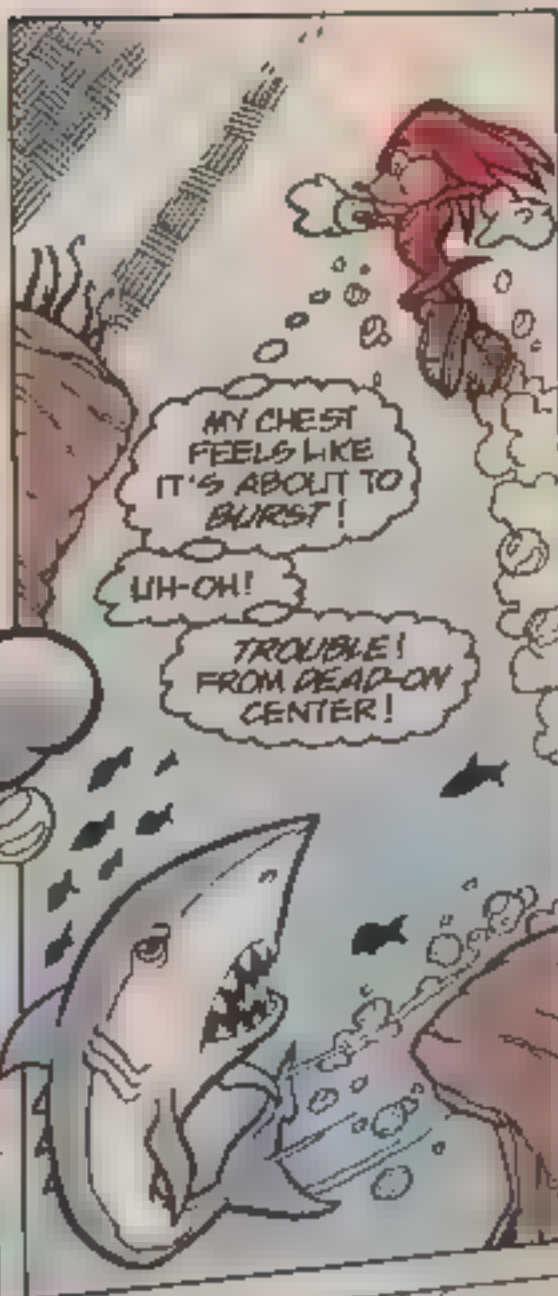






WELL?

ENERTAK CAN GO  
SLUCK ON RAW EGGS  
BEFORE I GIVE IN  
TO HIM!



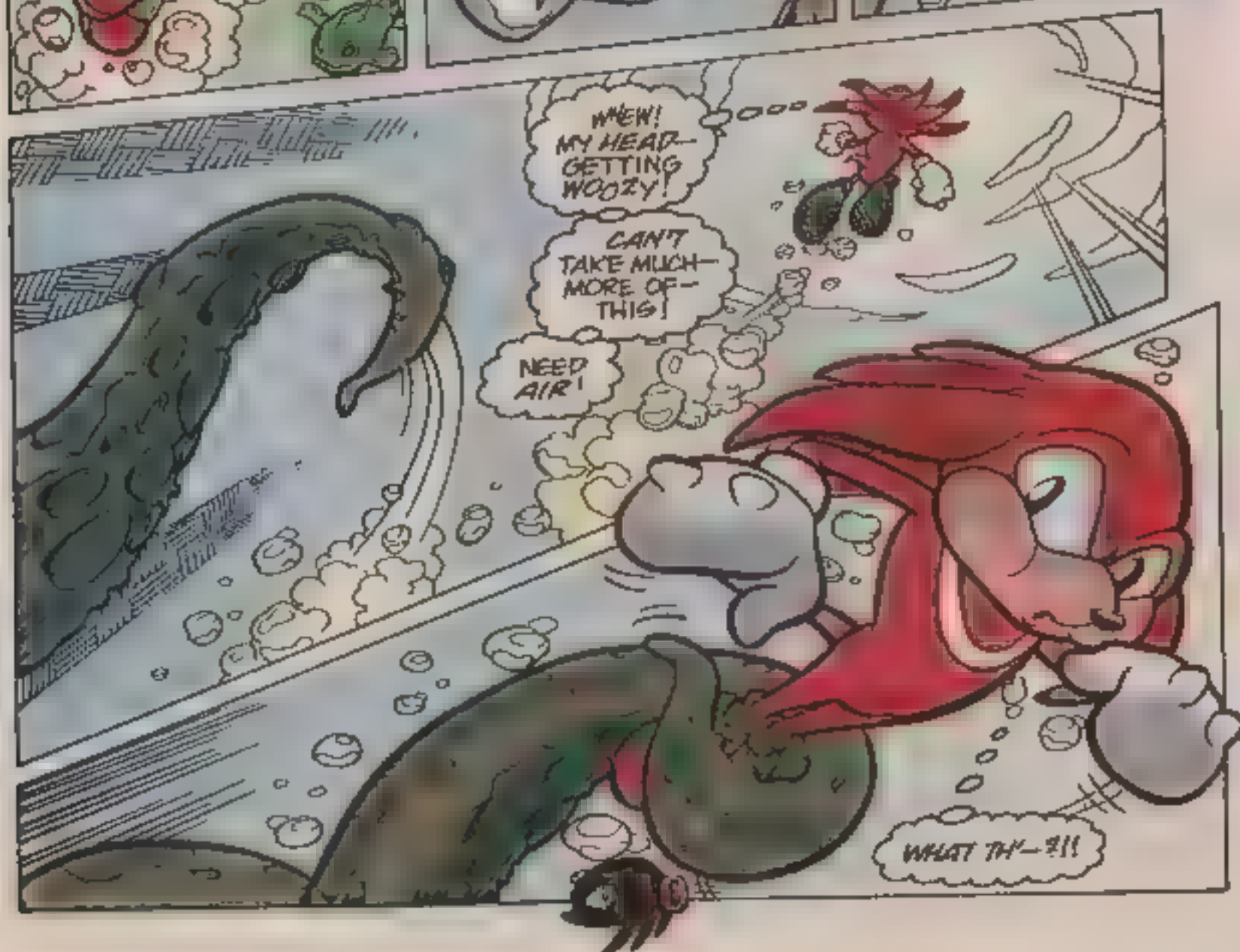
MY CHEST  
FEELS LIKE  
IT'S ABOUT TO  
BURST!

UH-OH!

TROUBLE!  
FROM DEAD-ON  
CENTER!



IF I FLOAT  
IN POSITION,  
OL SHARKEY'LL  
PROBABLY THINK  
I'M PART OF THE  
LANDSCAPE!



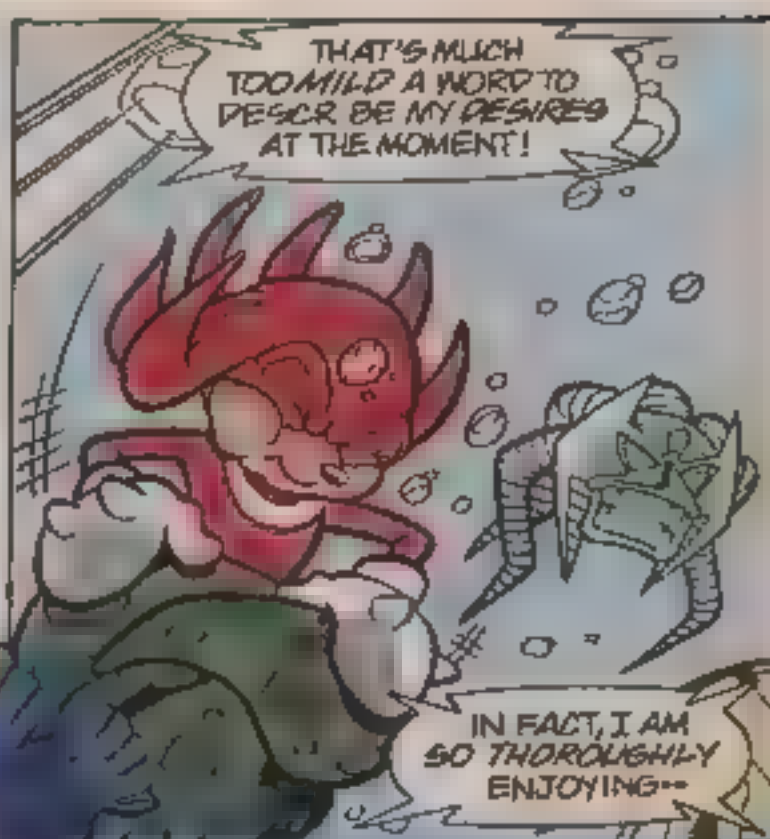
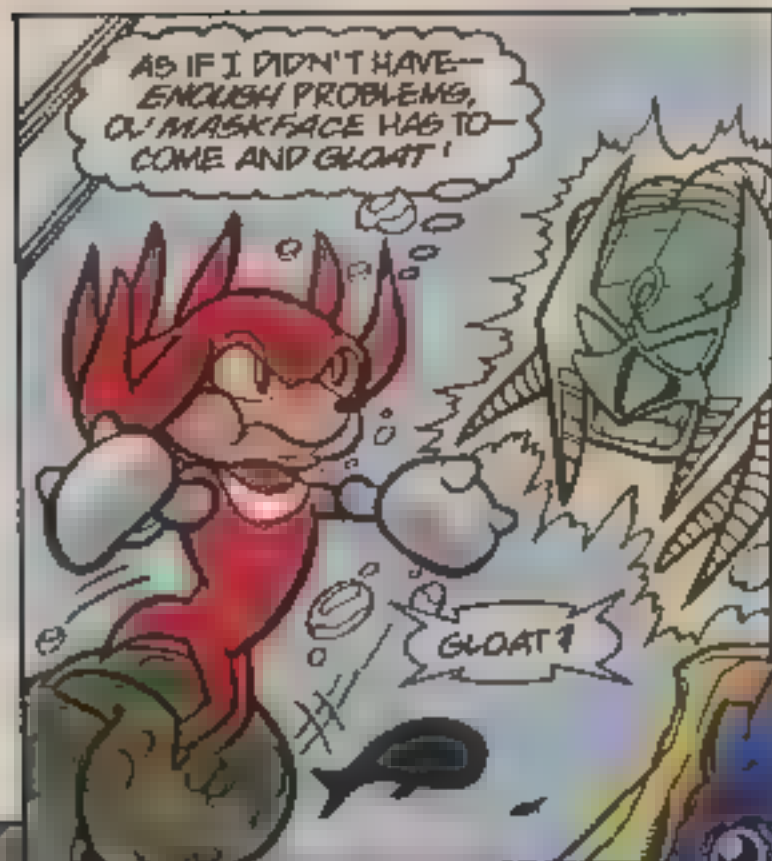
WHEN!  
MY HEAD-  
GETTING  
WOOZY!

CAN'T  
TAKE MUCH  
MORE OF-  
THIS!

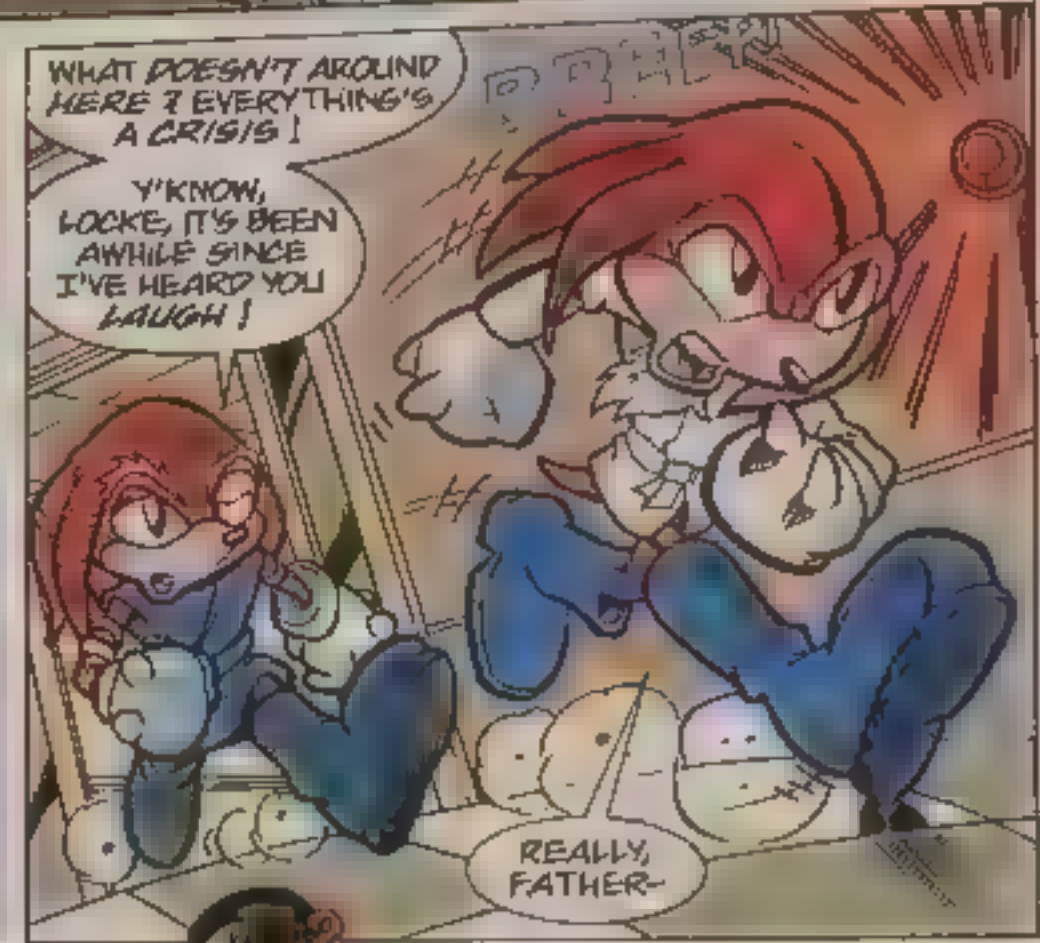
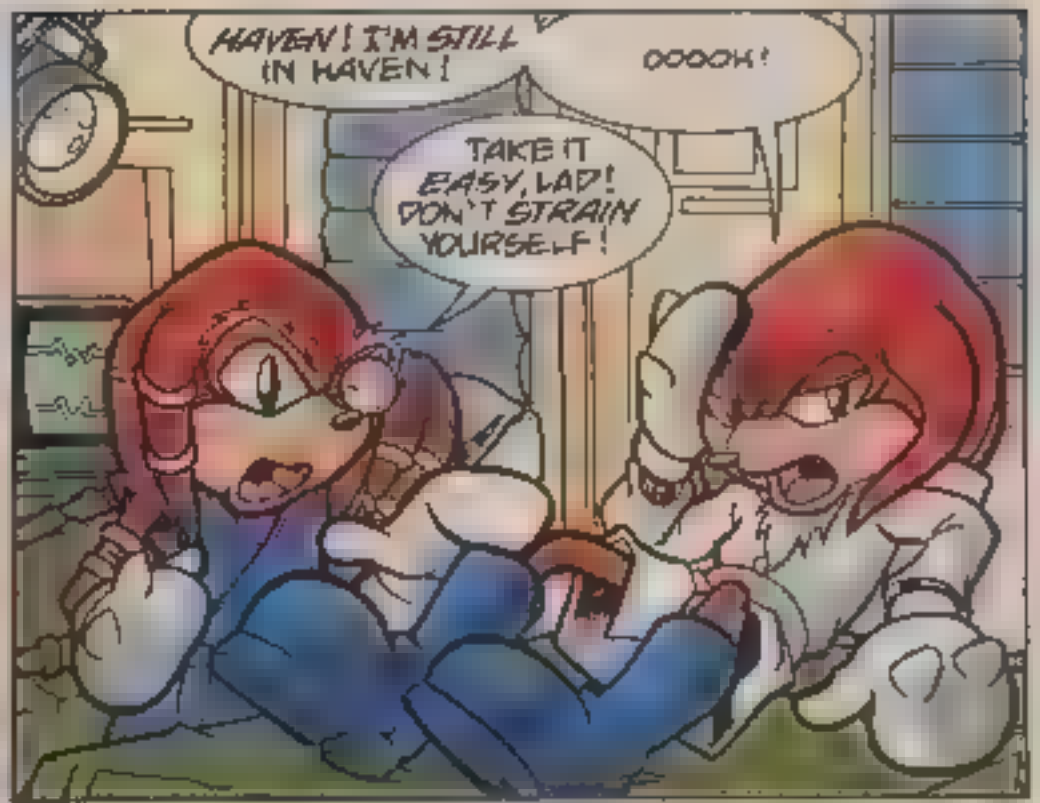
NEED  
AIR!

WHAT TH-??!

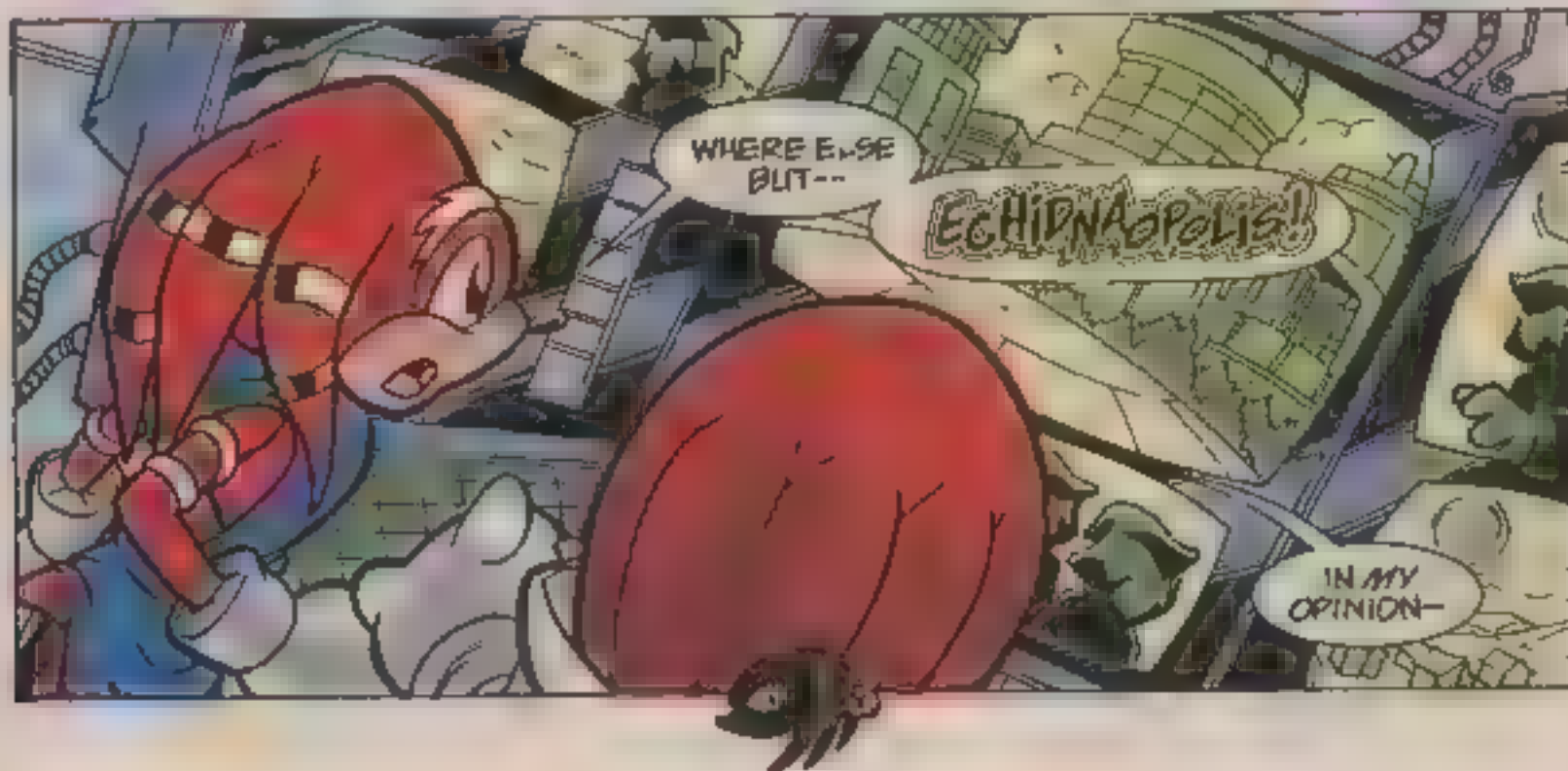
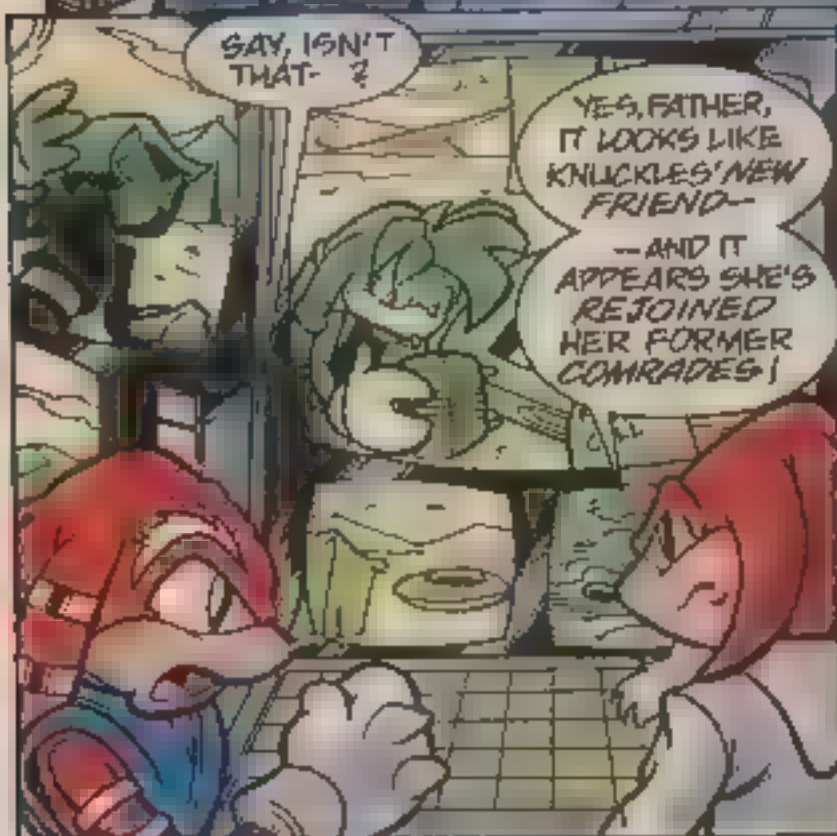
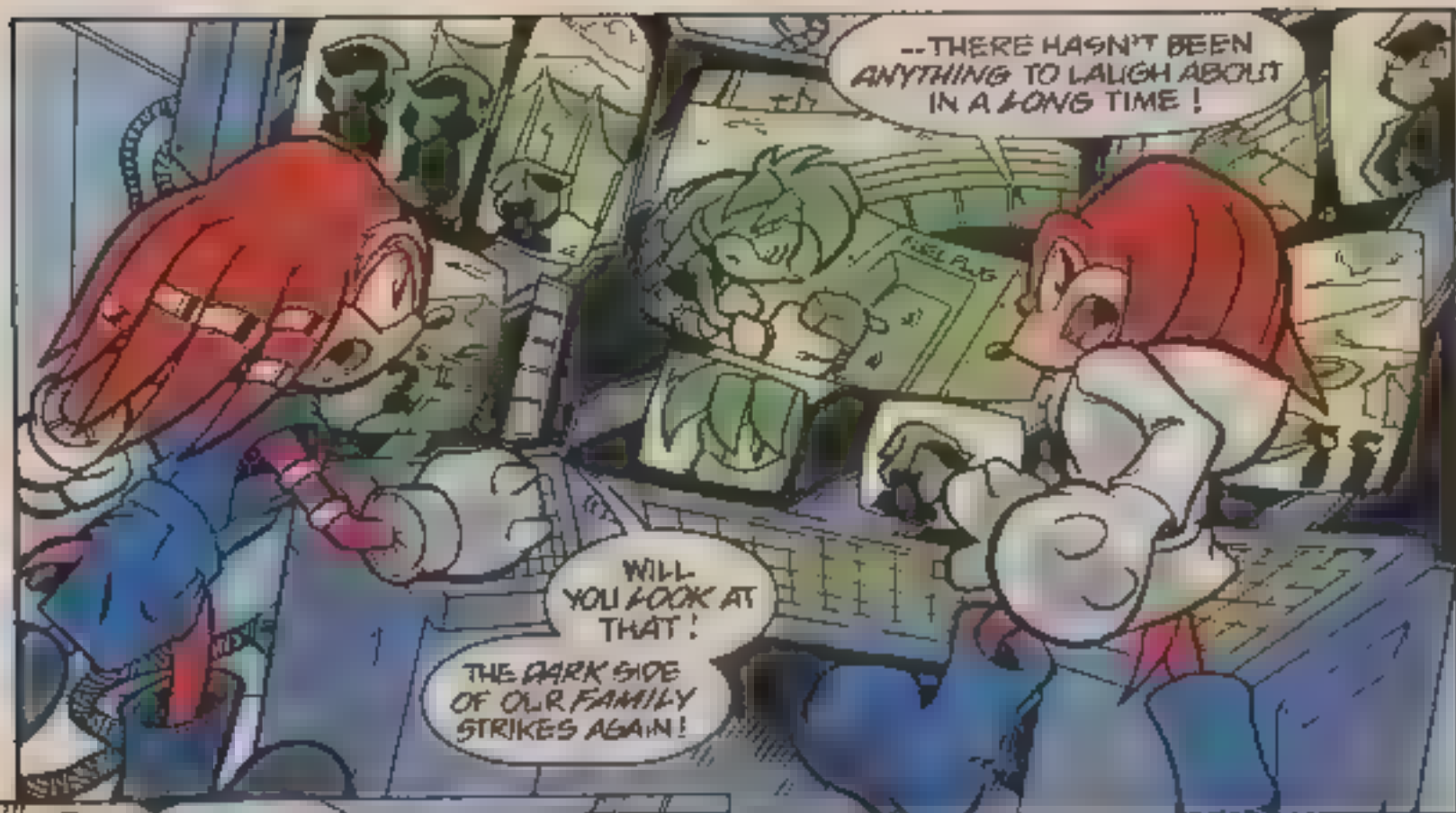






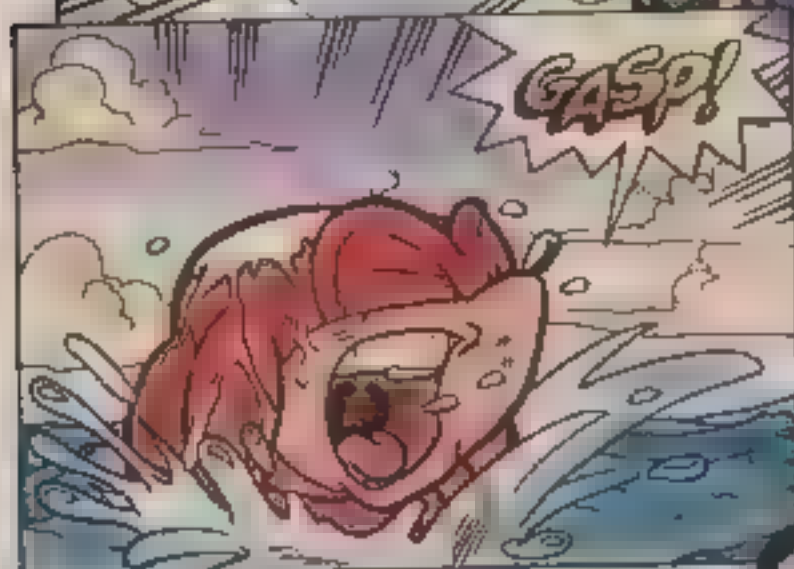
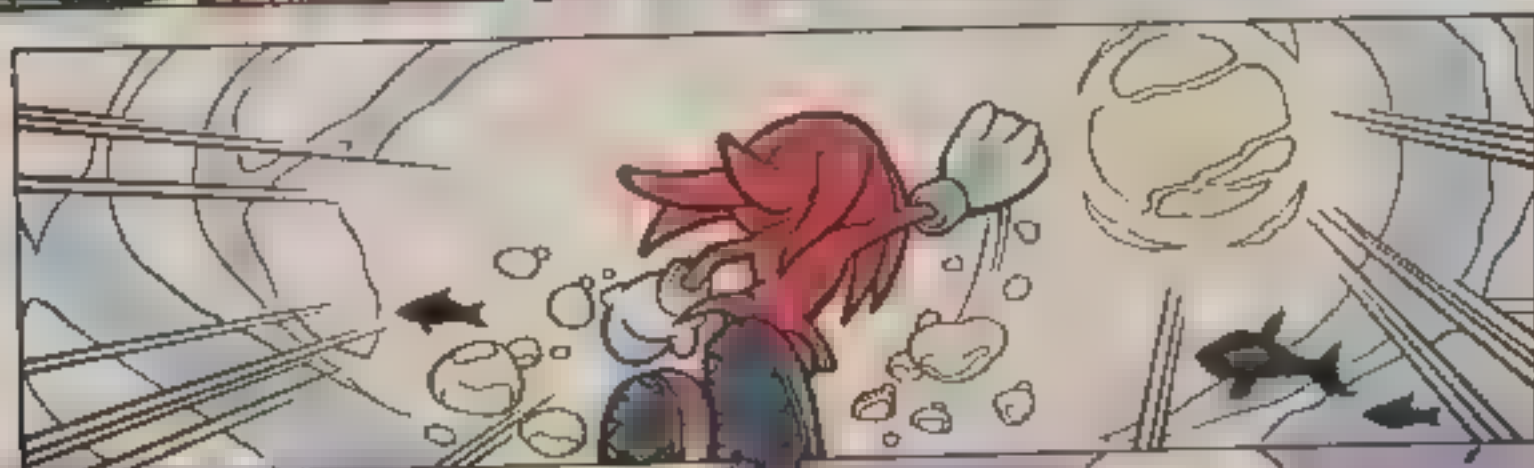
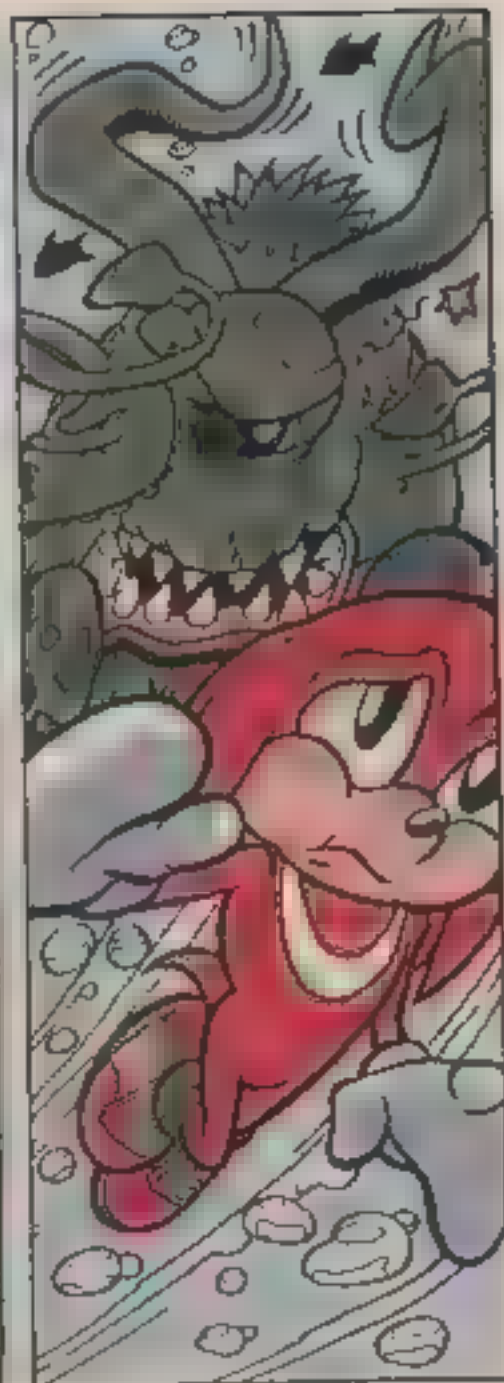
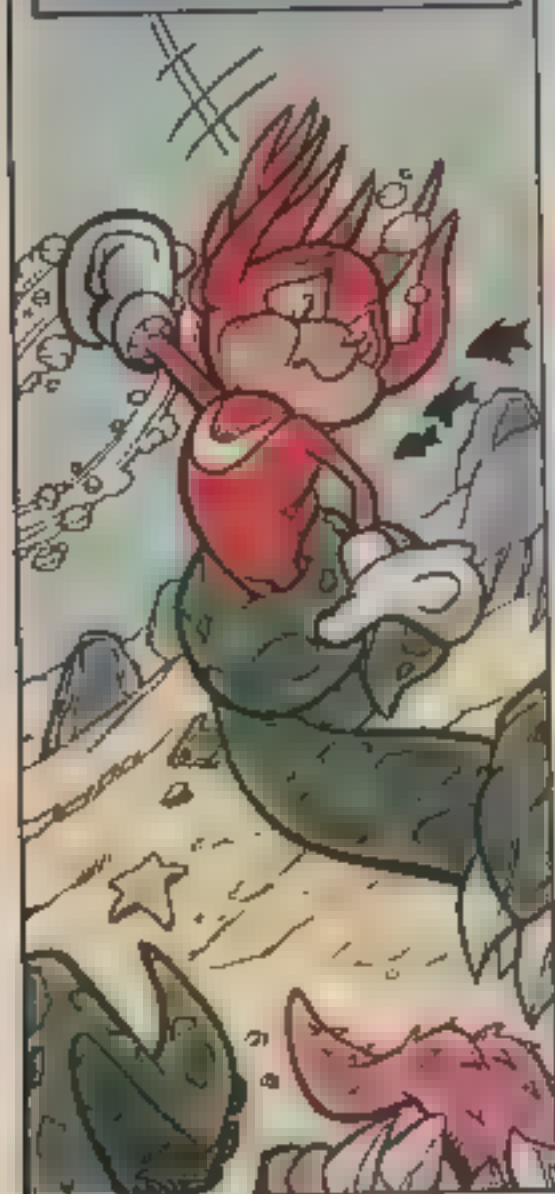






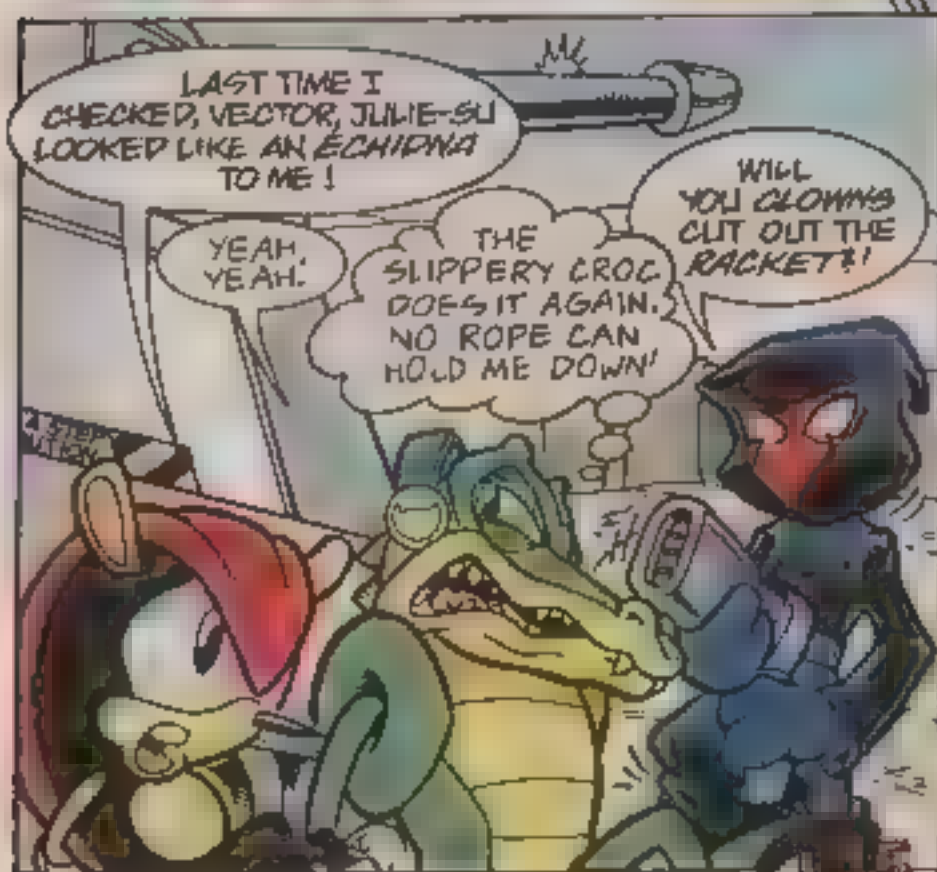
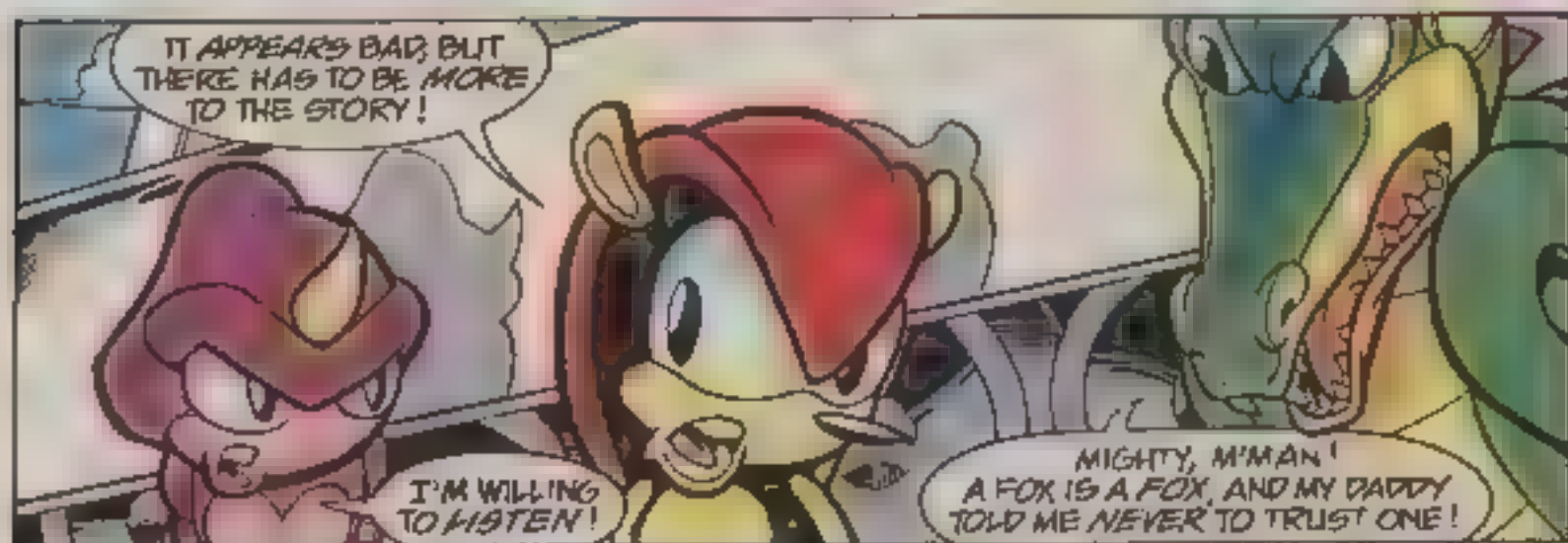
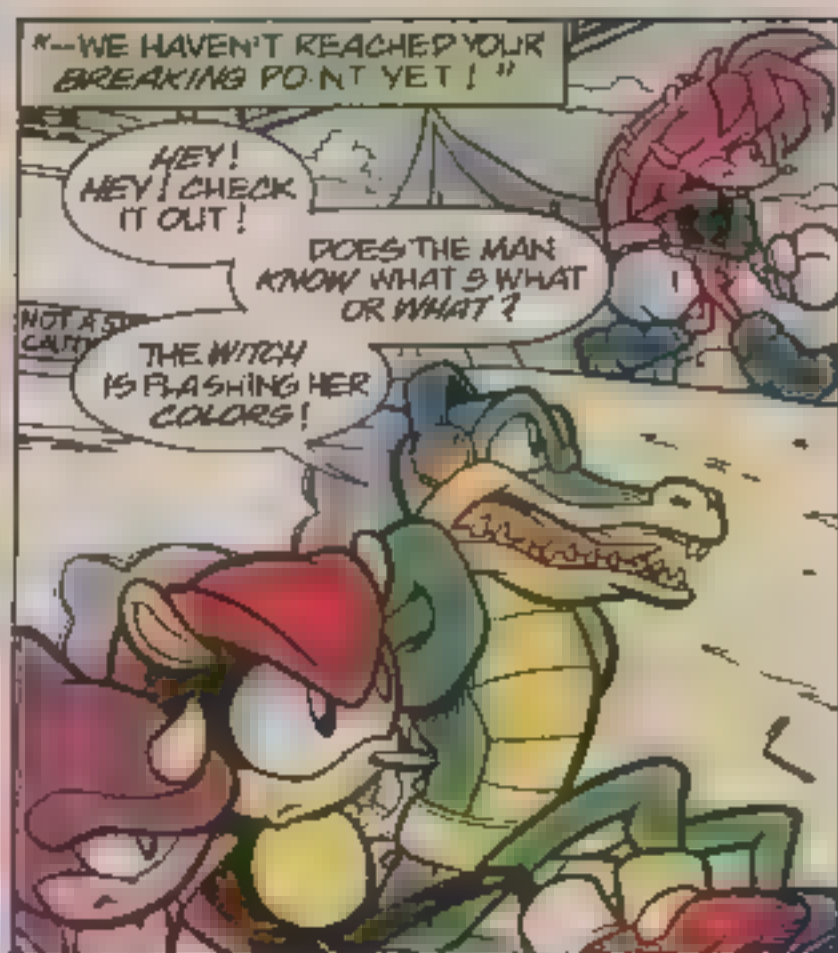
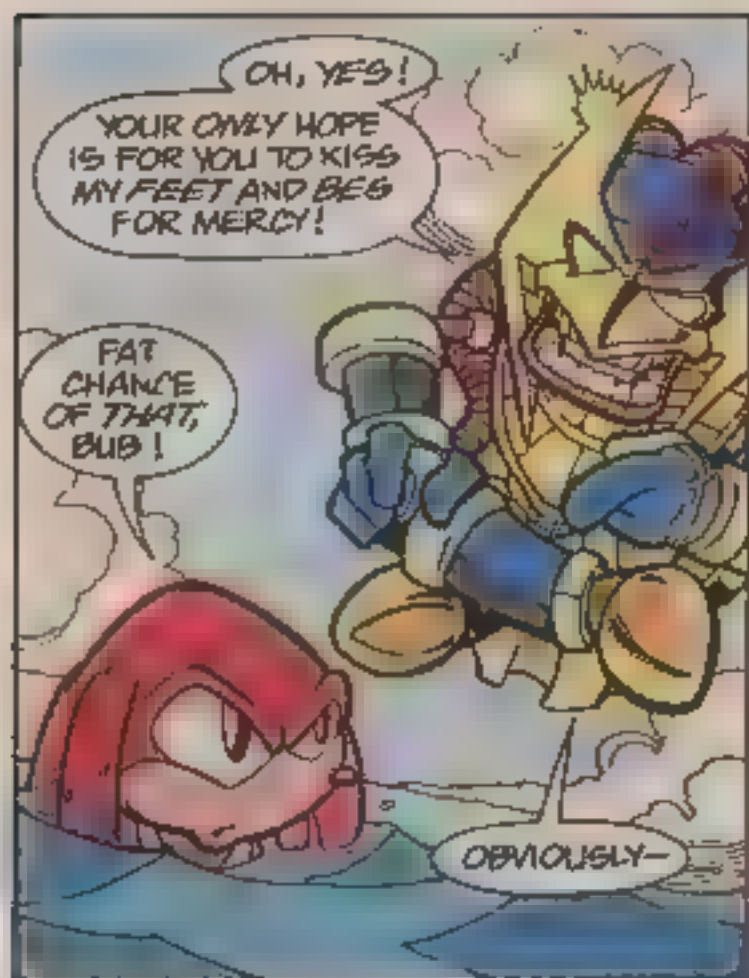


"...I DO BELIEVE UNDER THESE CONDITIONS THAT EXTREME MEASURES ARE CALLED FOR."



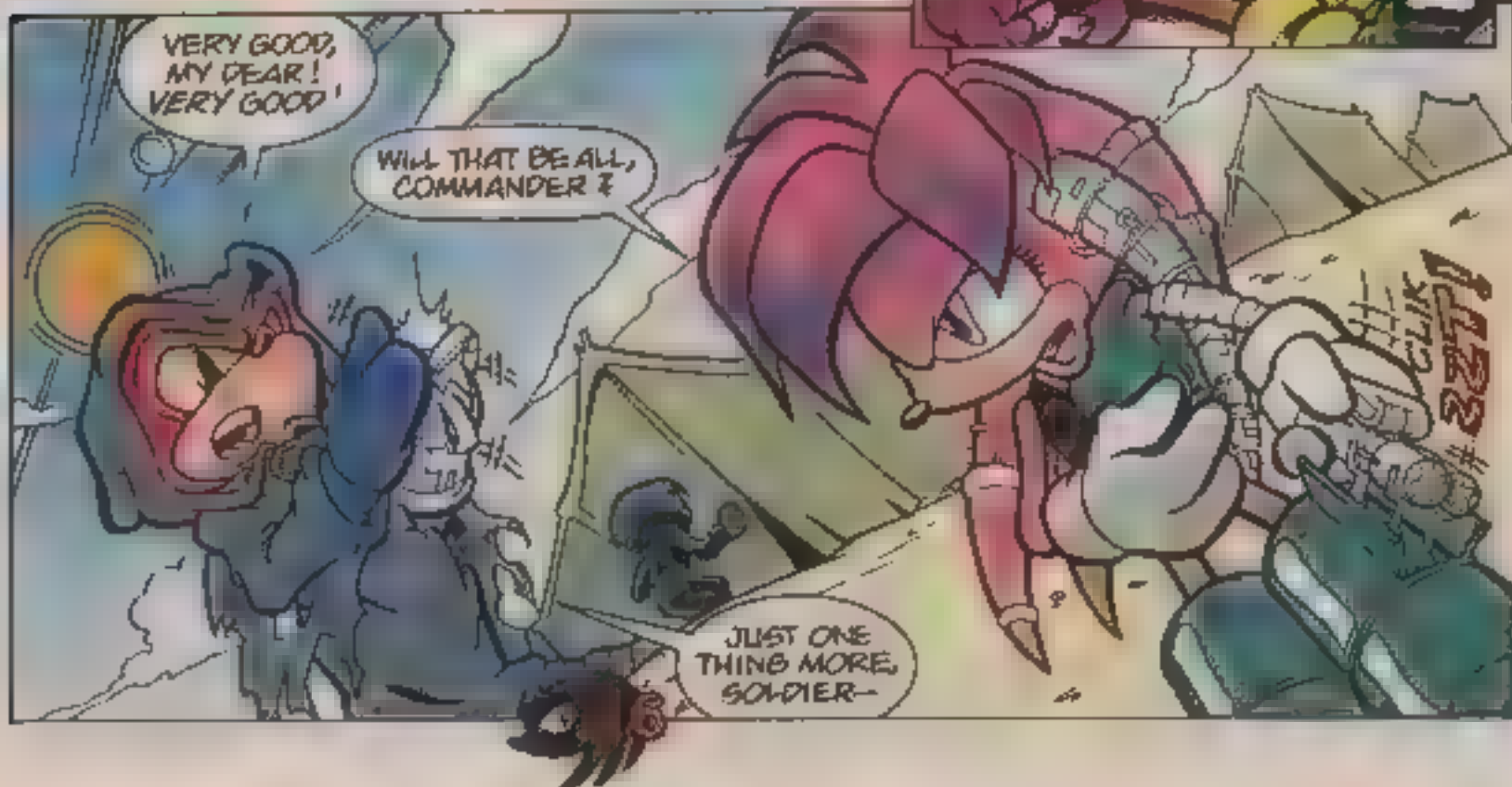
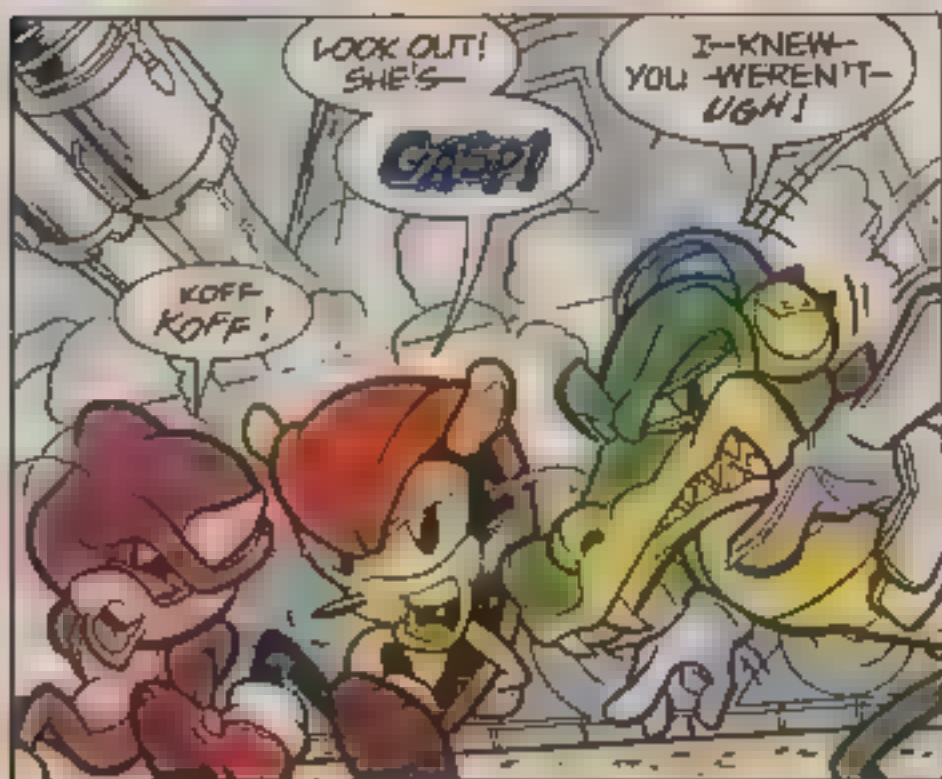
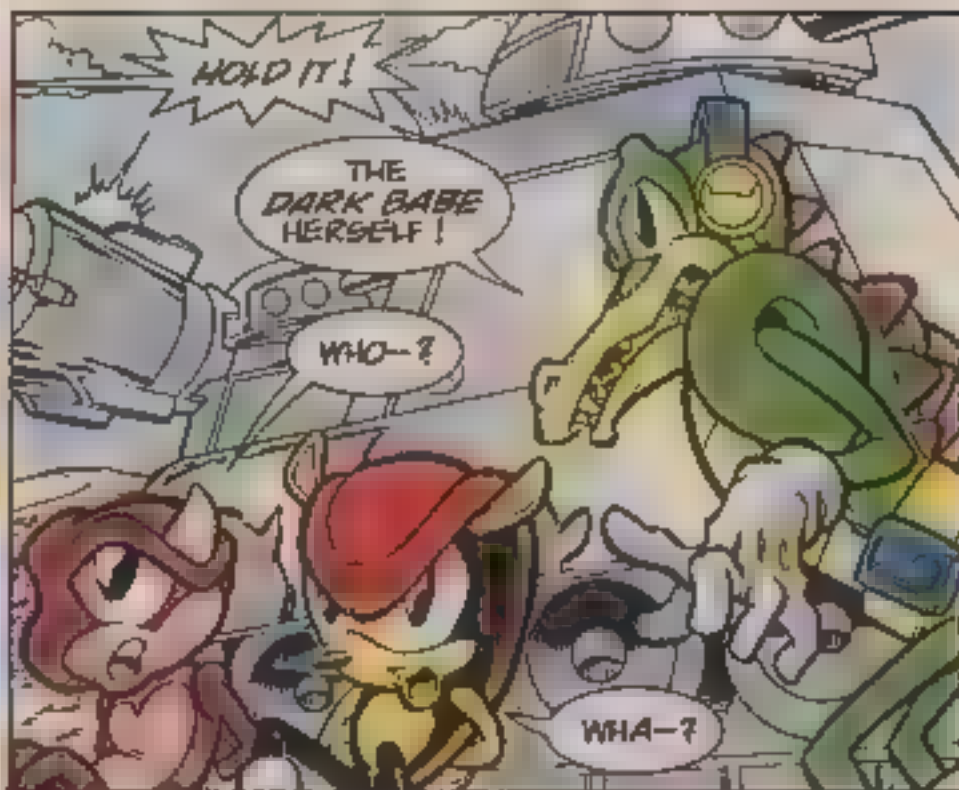
OH NO!



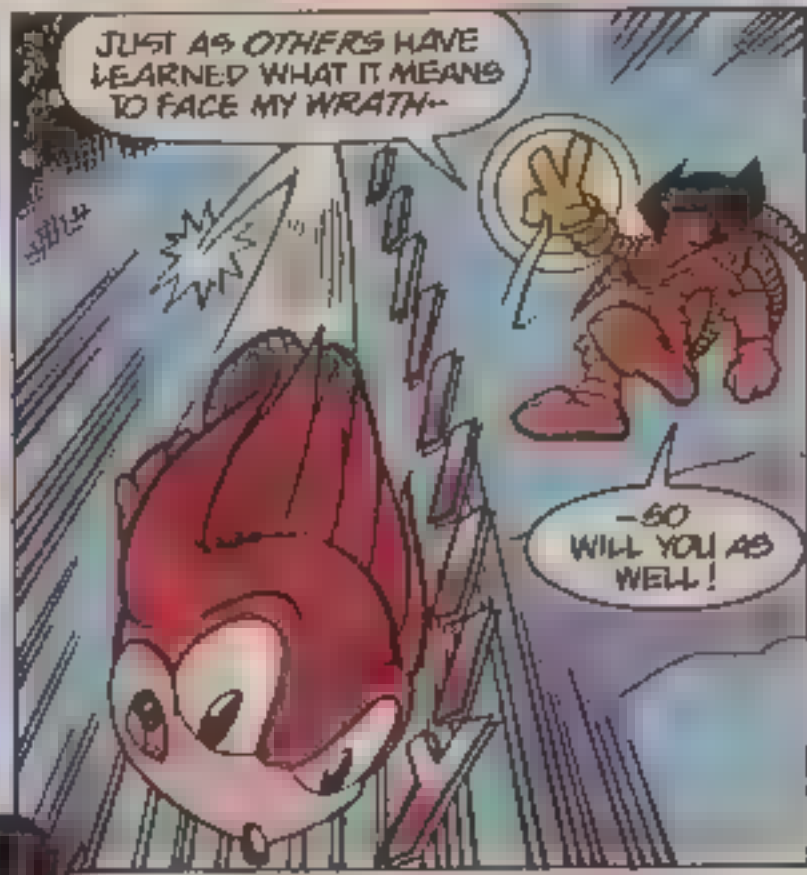
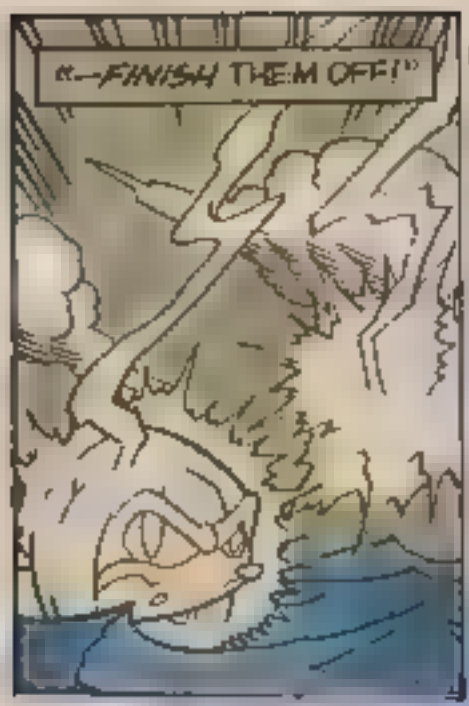




**BONK!**



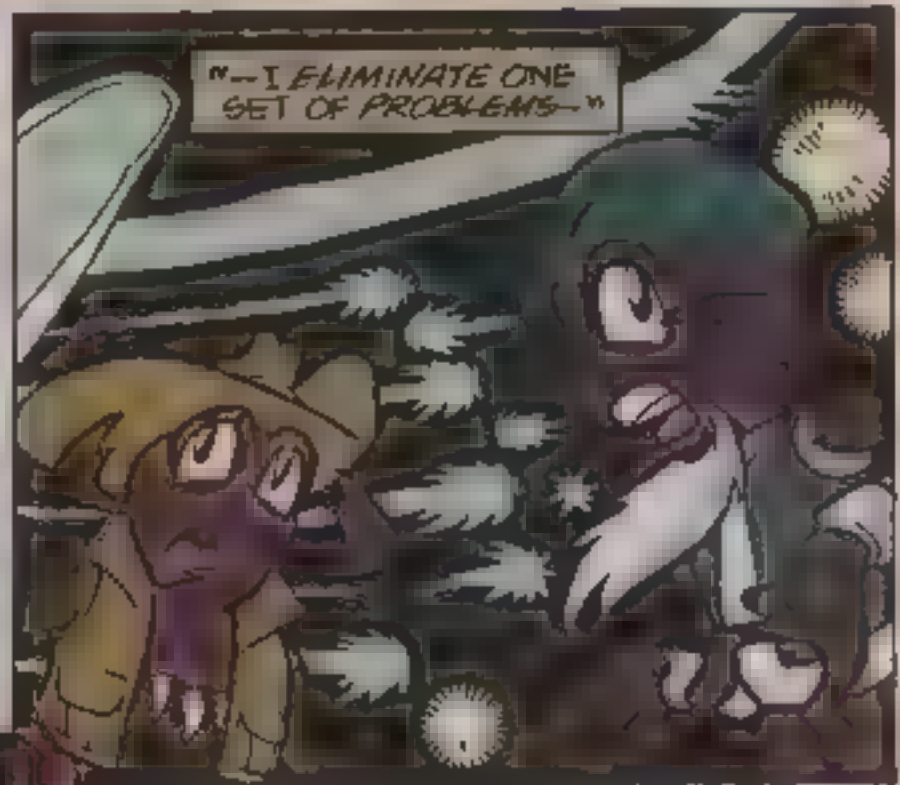
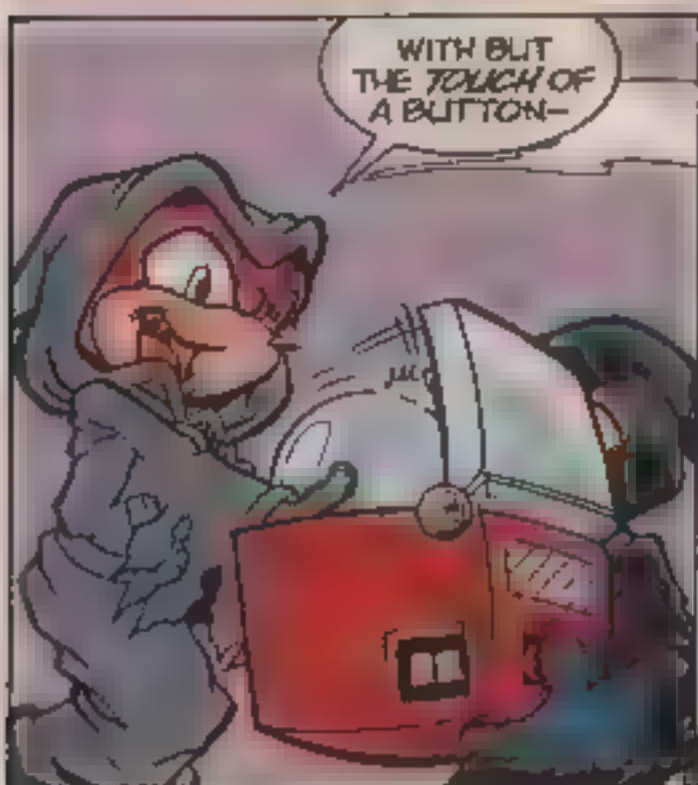
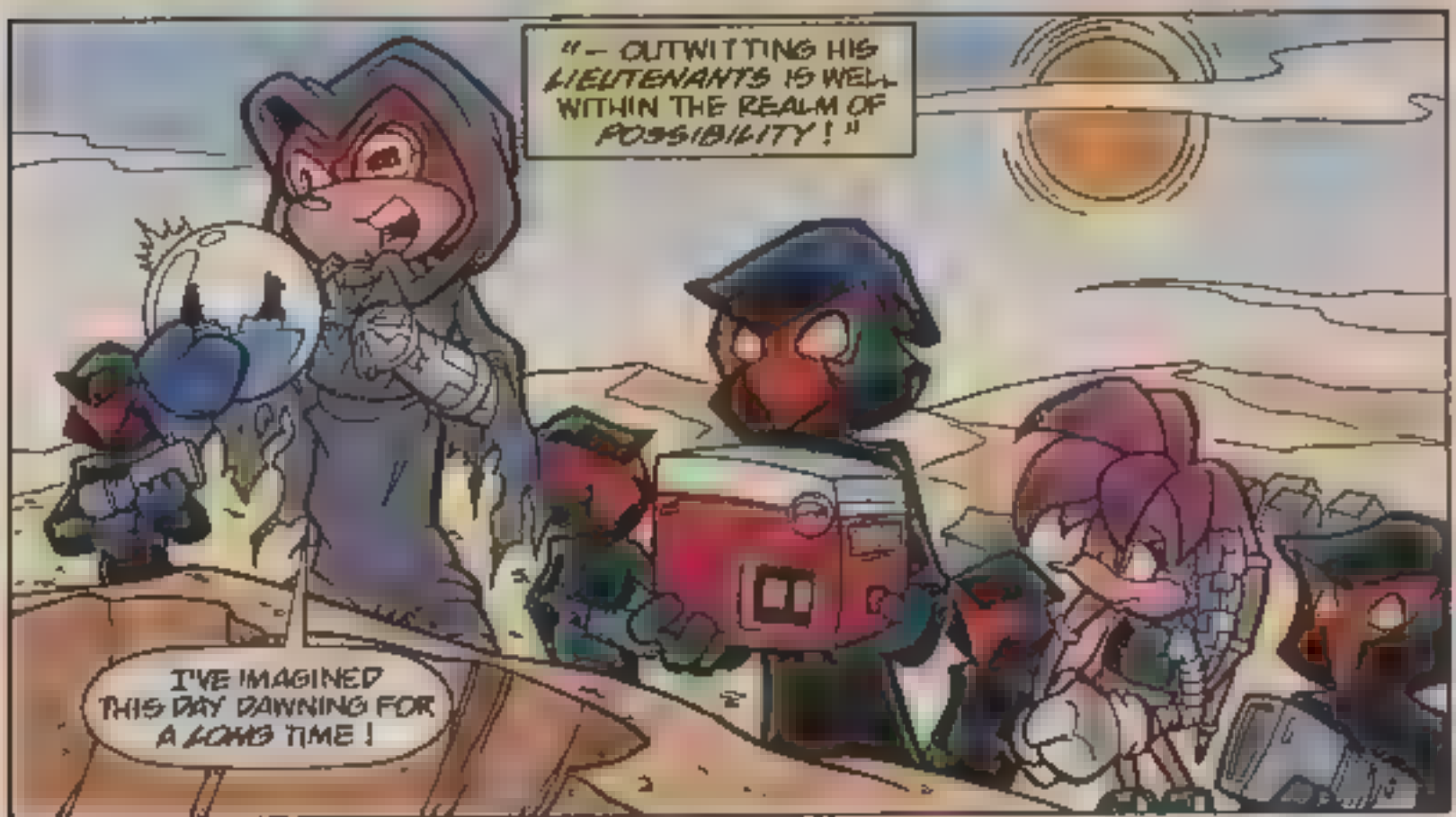
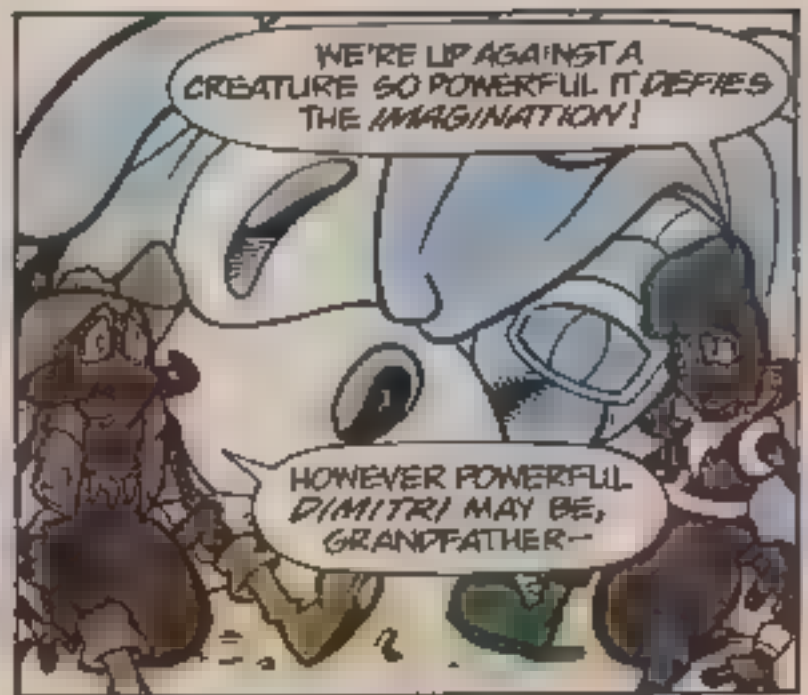
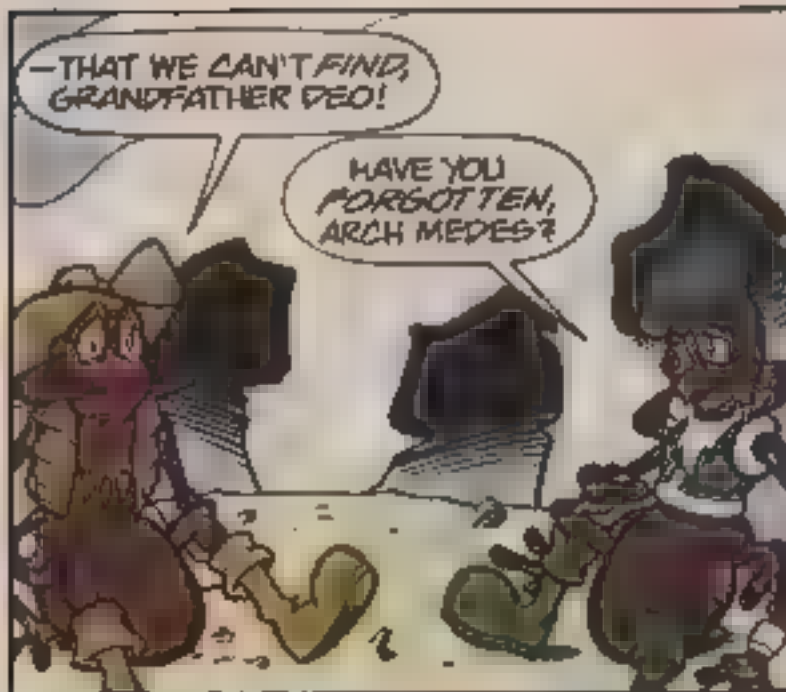




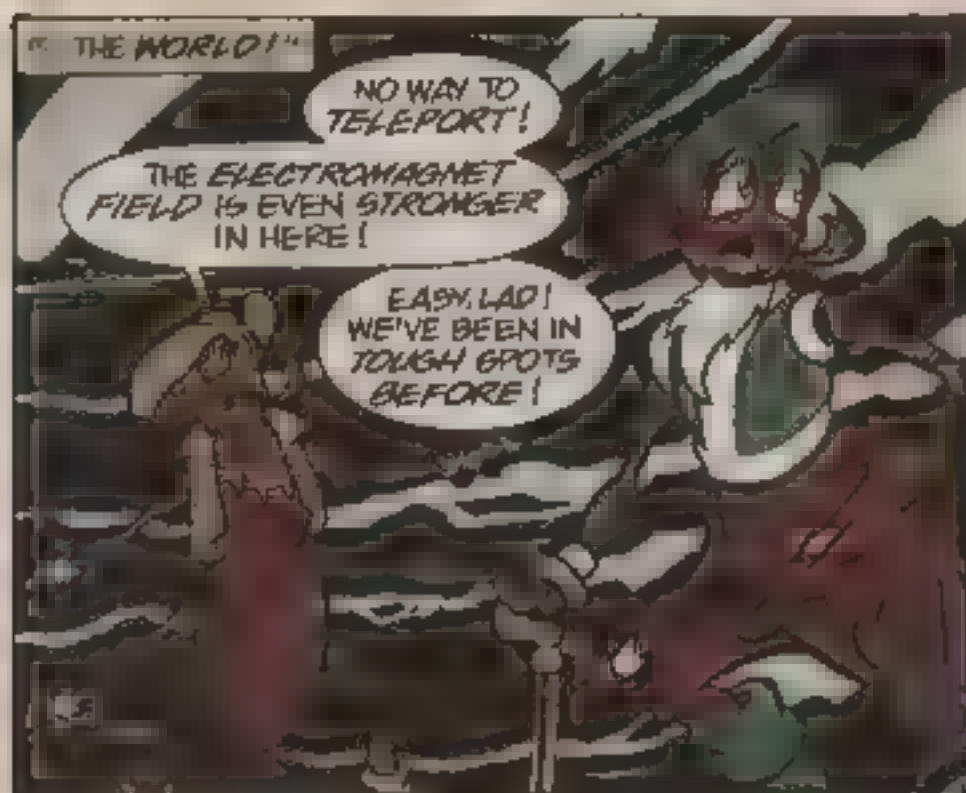
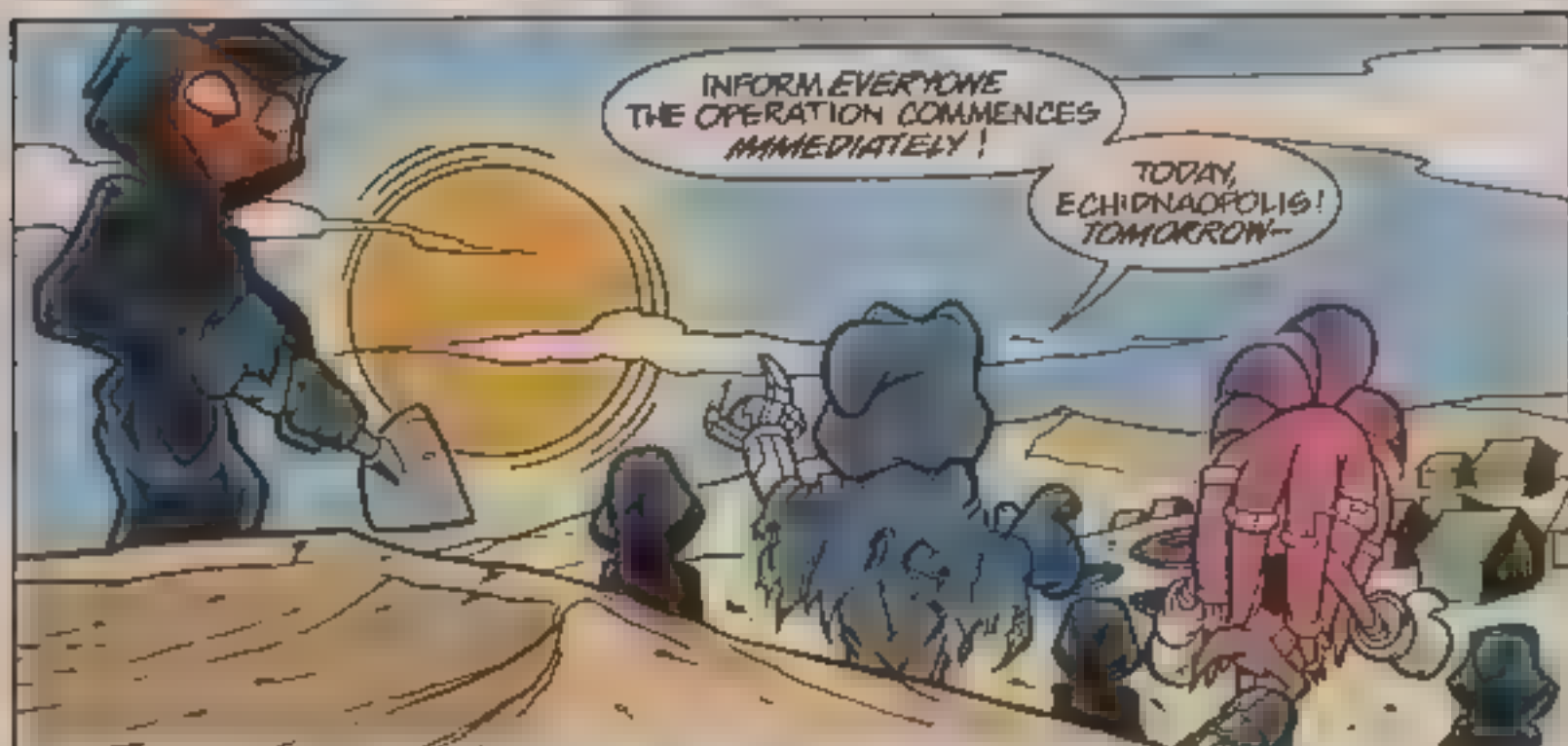




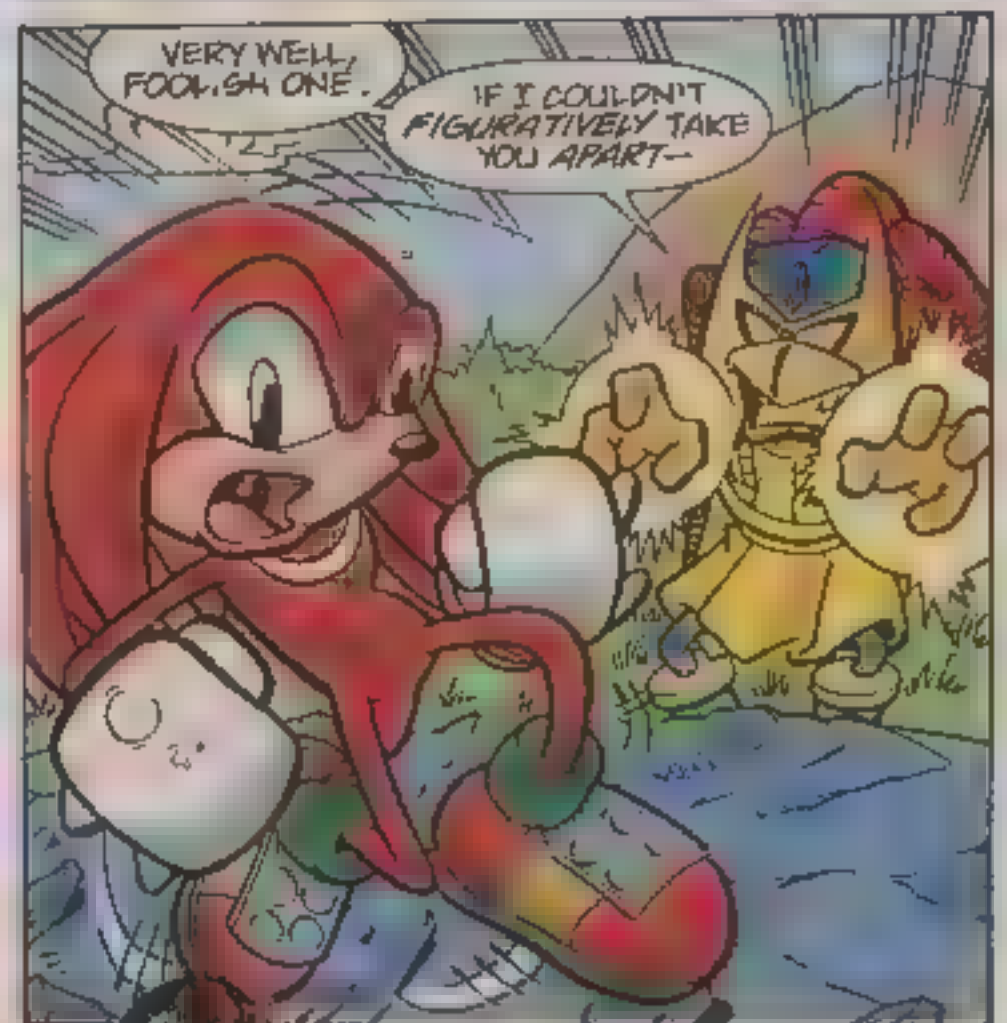
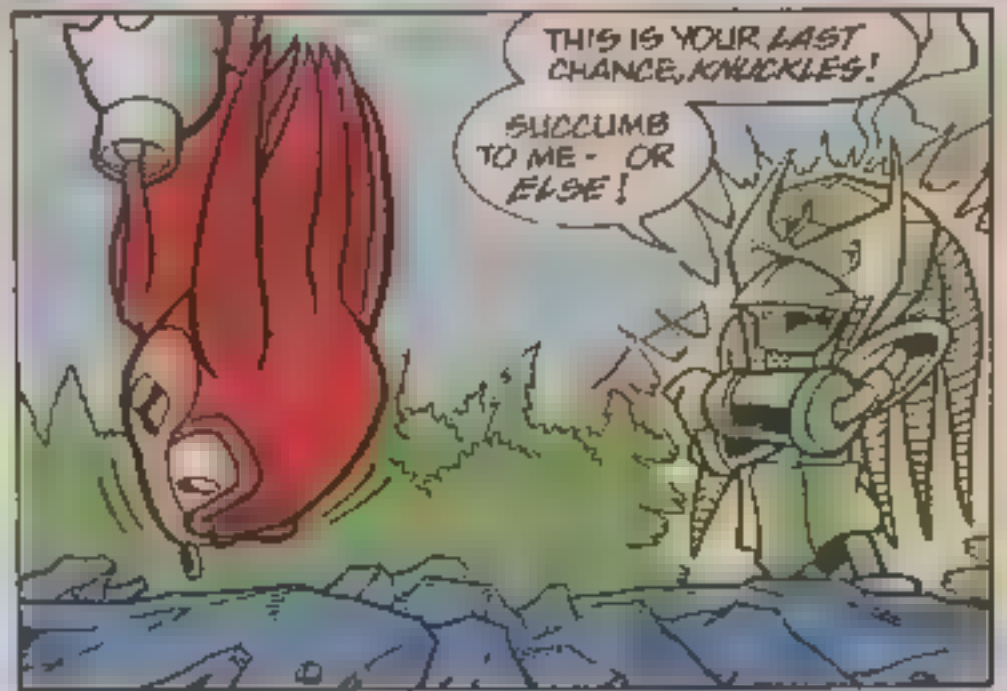
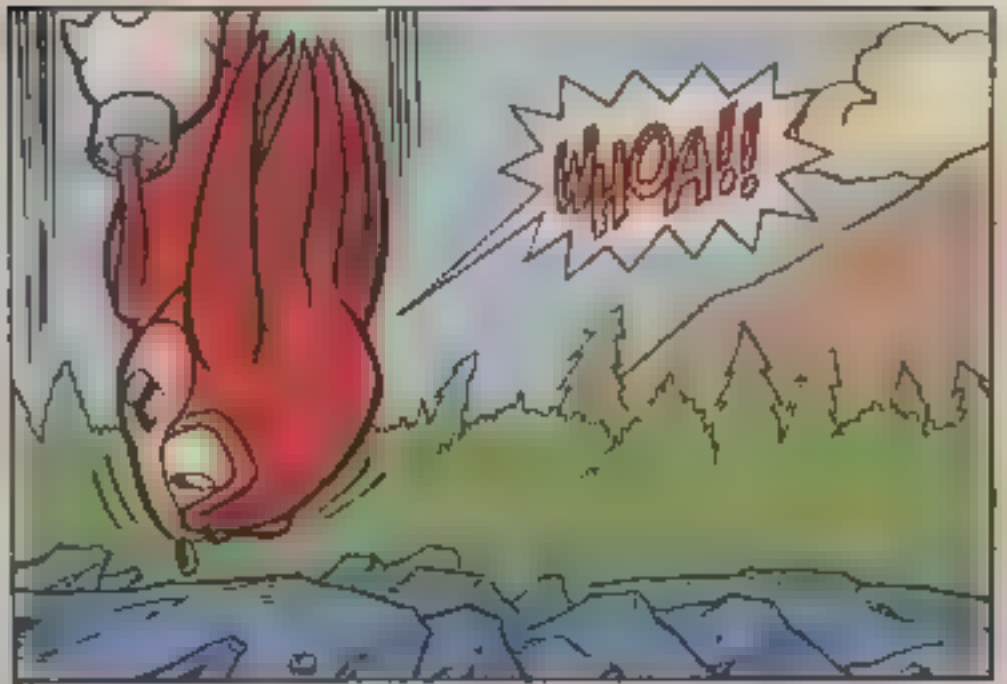










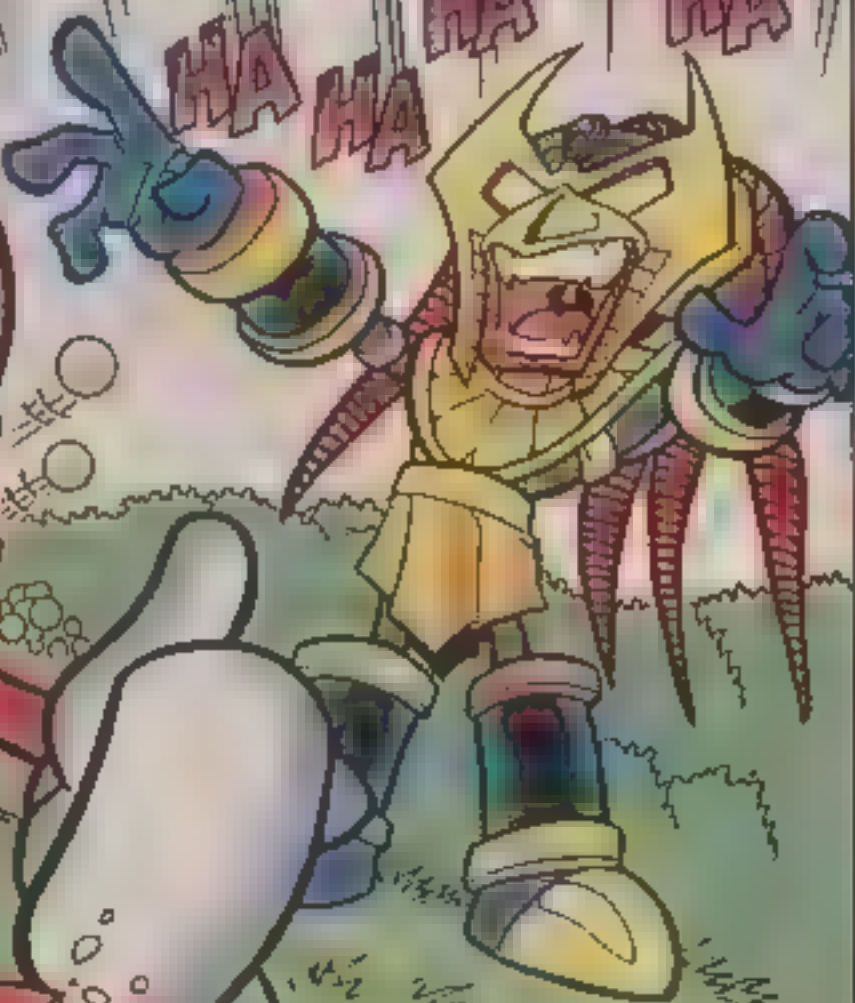




— TAKING YOU APART  
LITERALLY WILL DO JUST  
AS WELL.

ENJOY  
LIFE AS A  
NEURON!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA



***To be continued...***  
(Maybe... possibly... we hope ?)





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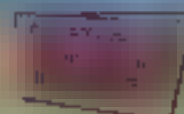
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# SONIC THE HEDGEHOG OF LETTERS

**In two weeks:** Who says things are quiet now that there is peace on Mobius? **The Freedom Fighters** are at it again. This time against a new threat in the form of **Eggbots**. Controlling them from behind bars is none other than **Snively**. He is on the attack as he makes his first move toward seeking power. And that power shows up in the form of **Monkey Khan**, a cyborg monkey created by **Robotnik** years ago. Is he friend or foe? Only this story knows for sure. **Writer/Penciler Frank Strom** chronicles this tale with inks by **Ken Penders**. Also in this issue: What is wrong with **King Acorn**? He's ordering the dismantling of ALL robotized Mobians, including **Uncle Chuck**! **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #55** on sale **December 1997**!

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And next month: The conclusion to this three-part epic **Everybody is in it**. Need we say more? **KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #9** on sale **December 1997**!

Catch you on the flip side!

THE END

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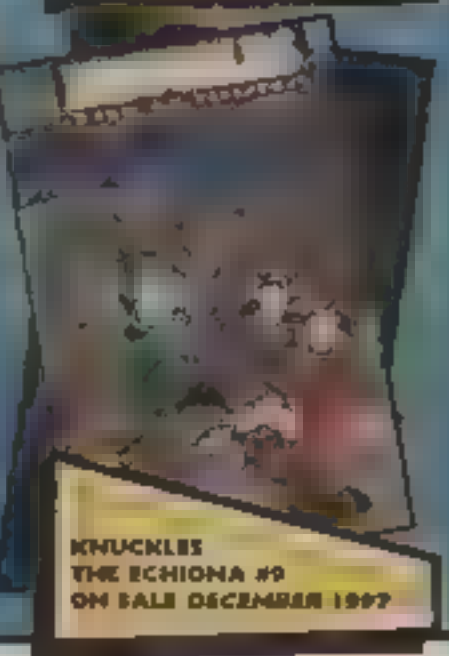
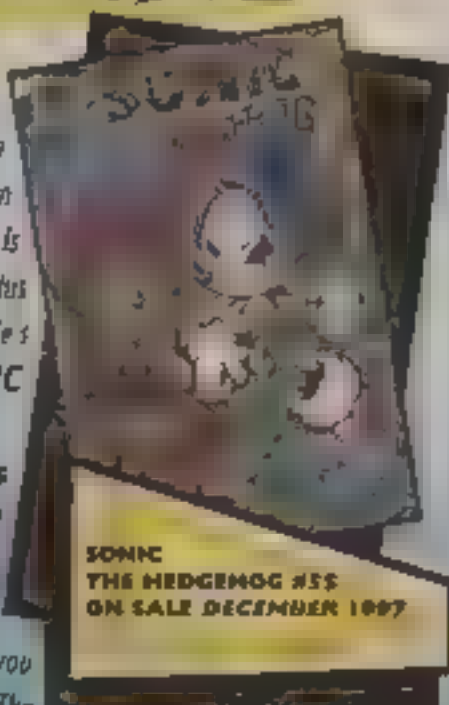
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Because of limited space the editors cannot guarantee that all correspondence will be published and reserve the right to edit messages as they see fit.





Dear Knuckles-Gramps,

Before I begin, I'd like to give a big great thanks to the powers that be at Archie Comics and the Sonic editors. There, now that the mushy stuff is over with, let's get on to my comments on Knuckles: The Dark Legion #2.

To my surprise, Knuckles TDL is turning out to be even better than the first Knuckles mini-series! I speak the honest-to-Swifty truth when I say that this was the best Knuckles story I've ever read thus far. Much kudos to Manny Galan! From some of the video game references he's slipped into his art, I believe he's a fellow video game fan like Spaz! The Galan+Pepey team makes the absolute best art available in Sonic comics outside of the Spaz+Harro team.

I find it interesting how Knuckles is supposedly the "Guardian of the Floating Island," yet the guardians are apparently supposed to run operations from this place called "Haven." Knuckles' father is watching him from Haven, which leads me to believe that Knuckles is actually still under training for guardian. That means Knuckles' father is actually still the real guardian! Hmmm... anyhow, thanks for reading my letter, and don't ever stop making Sonic comics! (And start making another Knuckles series, my army of insane Knuckles fans are getting a little—heh, heh—restless!) Heh, heh, heh...

Sonic-cerely,  
Green Gibbon  
Church Point, LA

Thanks for the rave review, Gibbon. All we can say is if you keep reading them, we'll keep making them.

Dear Knuckles,

I'm your biggest, biggest BIGGEST fan. I have both of your Saga games. I beat the "Sonic and Knuckles" game as Hyper Knuckles every time. I have all the Sonic Specials that you appeared in. I also have your first mini-series. It was great! The Dark Legion mini-series is even better! I just got #7 and it just keeps getting better and better. I hope that you got your own regular series soon. You're my favorite Freedom Fighter and I know you're way past cooler than Sonic. You can tell him that if you want.

Your #1 Rad Red Fan,  
Carletta "The Knuckaholic" Davis (age 15)  
Montgomery, AL

Well, I don't know anybody cooler than the Blue Blur but thanks for thinking I'm it. As you well know by now, I did get my own series and I couldn't have done it without the support of my fans.

Dear Knuckles,

I heard you're getting your own comic series and I just wanted to be first to congratulate you! I have some questions to ask you: 1) What happened to your mom? 2) How old were you when your dad went into the Forbidden Zone? 3) Would you ever join the Freedom Fighters? Well that's about it, catch you on the flip side.

Shane Crider  
Tacoma, WA

Thanks for the congrats, Shane. I am "mighty" proud (no pun intended). Now on to your questions: 1) As you saw in issue #4, my mom is just fine and is back in my life. 2) I was about nine years old. 3) Join The Freedom Fighters! I've got my own problems and responsibilities being the 'Guardian of The Floating Island' that there's not enough time for me to do both. But I do help from time to time whenever I can.

Dear Knux,

Why don't they give you a comic cover without Sonic on the front? I have some questions. 1) Who are Heavy and Bomb? 2) How many guardians has there been before you? 3) Is there any other intelligent life on The Floating Island besides you, the Chaotix, Benji the Kangaroo and his mom, and Catweazle? I have every comic of yours besides "Chaotix", and the last of the "Dark Legion" and Sonic & Knuckles "Battle Royal".

See Ya,  
Trevor Elvey  
McKinney, TX

1) Heavy and Bomb were two of Robotnik's weapons that defected to The Floating Island for some peace and quiet.

2) There have been sixteen guardians before me. 3) Yeah. There's a whole bunch of other species on the island. We will be able to see more of them in

future issues.



Dear Knuckles,

I LOVE YOU! Your appearances in the Sonic comics and your two mini-series were great. I love "Knuckles The Dark Legion" and am eagerly awaiting the release of "Knuckles The Echidna #4." I think you should have put in more of an appearance in "The Death-Egg Saga." I absolutely love what the artists at Archie have done with you. My favorite character to play in Sonic 3 is you.

What I'd really like to know is how can I get a copy of your debut in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #13? My lucky number is 13. I've searched and searched, but all I've found is issues #15 and #17. True, I didn't have them before, but I REALLY want issue #13. That will make my collection #1, #14-48 of the regular series, and all special issues (with exception of Sonic Ltd. #8-3).

Yours Pal,

H. "Sketch" S.

NGSOLO@juno.com

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #3: SONIC FIRSTS has my first appearance from SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #13. Get it while the getting is good. On sale now!

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next  
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